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BY TYLER DURDEN

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BY TYLER DURDEN

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main source of revenue — fell into a slump. To get back on track, the company needs computer makers to quickly work through inventory stockpiles and return to ordering components. That would provide Intel with a revenue boost needed to help shore up its finances, which were already stretched by ambitious plans to regain technological leadership within the chip industry.

“We’ve seen extraordinary measures within the memory market. It’s at levels that we haven’t seen in 25 years,” said Lam CEO Tim Archer.

Shin Jinho, co-CEO of Midas International Asset Management added: “The NAND market is experiencing fierce competition and the recovery will follow one quarter after the DRAM market recovery. If the situation gets longer, eventually, we are going to see consolidation in the NAND market.”

All eyes are now on Samsung, Bloomberg says. It'll report on Tuesday this week and will offer additional color on the sector on its conference call.

War, china, sanctions, government, markets: jan30 Apple's expected to post its first revenue decline since 2019 on Thursday

War: jan30 Ukraine Says Expedited Talks For F-16 Jets Underway As Germany Counters 'Not An Option'

The Ukrainian presidency's office is saying that it is already engaged in expedited negotiations with the US regarding the possibility of supplying Kiev forces with long-range missiles and military jets. This despite German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, who was key in the decision of Berlin and Washington to approve tanks, earlier saying that sending jets is not an option.

Mykhailo Podolyak, an adviser to Zelesnky, was cited in *The Associated Press* on Saturday as [saying](#) that "**fast-track**" **talks are taking place for jets**, and which also focus on long-range missiles "to drastically curtail the key tool of the Russian army" by providing the ability to attack weapons warehouses far behind front lines.

Stats, tech: jan30 apples assault on third party repair shops

Apple has never looked too kindly upon users actually repairing their own devices. The company's ham-fisted efforts to shut down, sue, or otherwise imperil third-party repair shops are [legendary](#). As are the company's efforts to force recycling shops to [shred Apple products](#) (so they can't be refurbished and re-used).

War: Jan 30 Scholz doubles down on refusal of fighter jets for Ukraine: 'The question of combat aircraft does not arise at all,' German chancellor tells Tagesspiegel.

Crypto, sanctions, Africa: Jan 30 bitcoin is officially 60% in Nigeria due to localized demand

The price of one Bitcoin (BTC) in Nigeria has skyrocketed to the equivalent of \$38,000 in the local currency, the naira...

The price of Bitcoin in Nigeria has skyrocketed to well above global market levels amid continued efforts by the central bank to push its citizens into digitalized cash.

At the time of writing, the price of 1 BTC on the Nigerian crypto exchange NairaEX is 17.8 million nairas, equating to a whopping \$38,792.

This is more than a 60% premium over the current market price of Bitcoin, around \$23,700 at the time of writing.

It comes as the Central Bank of Nigeria has continued to impose limits on ATM cash withdrawals amid an ongoing effort to accelerate its shift to a cashless society.

Earlier this month, the central bank imposed a limit on cash withdrawals following a December [announcement](#).

As of Jan. 9, citizens are only allowed to withdraw a maximum of 20,000 nairas (around \$43.50) from cash machines per day, with a weekly limit of 100,000 nairas (roughly \$217).

The move also came just days before new naira banknotes went into circulation with the aim of curbing inflation and money laundering. The

central bank imposed a deadline of Jan. 24 for Nigerians to exchange their old, higher denomination bank notes for the new currency.

However, there were long queues and complaints that there was insufficient time to meet the deadline. The central bank has now extended that deadline to Feb. 10, the BBC [reported](#) on Jan. 29.

It is not the first time the Bitcoin premium has surged in Nigeria. In February 2021, the central bank [banned regulated financial institutions](#) from providing services to cryptocurrency exchanges in the country, driving the BTC premium as high as 36%.

The recent interest in Bitcoin has also seen Nigeria becoming the leading country for Bitcoin web searches, according to [Google Trends](#).

Additionally, on Jan. 26 Reuters [reported](#) that the Central Bank of Nigeria launched a domestic card scheme to rival foreign cards like Mastercard and Visa.

The "AfriGo" card scheme was designed to give Nigerians better access to bank card services and circumvent often expensive foreign card fees and exchange costs.

Markets: jan30 nasdaq records best start in 20 years: sounds and looks like a textbook bear rally

War: jan30 strange internal memo in military: Air Force General Tells His Officers 'War With China' Only 2 Years Away

A four-star Air Force general sent a memo on Friday to the officers he commands that predicts the U.S. will be at war with China in two years and tells them to get ready to prep by firing "a clip" at a target, and "aim for the head."

*In the memo sent Friday and obtained by NBC News, [Gen. Mike Minihan](#), head of Air Mobility Command, said, "**I hope I am wrong. My gut tells me will fight in 2025.**"*

Government, markets, energy: jan30 The five biggest oil majors in the world are expected to report record profits for 2022 in the coming days, for around \$200 billion in combined yearly earnings thanks to the jump in oil and gas prices last year. This year, earnings at ExxonMobil, Chevron, BP, Shell, and TotalEnergies

The record quarterly earnings which the majors reported for the second and third quarters of 2022 have already drawn intense criticism from the White House, which has scrambled to have gasoline prices down from the record levels seen in June. The Biden Administration has accused Big Oil of “war profiteering” and has called on companies to invest in more supply or “face higher taxes.” In Europe, the record earnings are already subject to windfall taxes, which ExxonMobil [has challenged in court](#).

The five oil and gas supermajors are expected to report at the end of January and early February combined 2022 earnings of \$200 billion, according to early estimates compiled by S&P Capital IQ and cited by the [Financial Times](#). Fourth-quarter earnings will still be well above year-ago levels, although lower than the record quarterly profits for Q2 and Q3.

The majors’ earnings for 2023 are set to drop from the 2022 record to around \$150 billion, which – despite the decline – would be the second-highest profit haul for Big Oil, per projections by S&P Capital IQ.

War, Russia, energy: jan30 article has 260k views, 3000 comments on zh; top military official for the united states makes interesting comment: Until it decided to confront Moscow with an existential military threat in Ukraine, Washington confined the use of American military power to conflicts that Americans could afford to lose, wars with weak opponents in the developing world from Saigon to Baghdad that did not present an existential threat to U.S.

forces or American territory. This time - a proxy war with Russia - is different.

Douglas Abbott Macgregor (born January 4, 1953) is a retired U.S. Army colonel and government official, and an author, consultant, and television commentator.[1] He played a significant role on the battlefield in the 1990-91 Gulf War and the 1999 NATO bombing of Yugoslavia. His 1997 book *Breaking the Phalanx* established him as an influential if unconventional theorist of military strategy. His thinking contributed to the US strategy in its 2003 invasion of Iraq."

Contrary to early Beltway hopes and expectations, Russia neither collapsed internally nor capitulated to the collective West's demands for regime change in Moscow. [Washington underestimated](#) Russia's societal cohesion, its latent military potential, and its relative immunity to [Western economic sanctions](#).

As a result, Washington's proxy war against Russia is failing. U.S. Defense Secretary [Lloyd Austin was unusually candid](#) about the situation in Ukraine when he told the allies in Germany at Ramstein Air Base on January 20, "We have a window of opportunity here, between now and the spring," admitting, "That's not a long time."

[Alexei Arestovich](#), President Zelensky's recently fired advisor and unofficial "Spinmeister," was more direct. He expressed his own doubts that Ukraine can win its war with Russia and he now questions whether Ukraine will even survive the war. [Ukrainian losses—at least 150,000 dead](#) including 35,000 missing in action and presumed dead—have fatally weakened Ukrainian forces resulting in [a fragile Ukrainian defensive posture](#) that will likely shatter under the crushing weight of attacking Russian forces in the next few weeks.

[Ukraine's materiel losses are equally severe](#). These include thousands of [tanks and armored infantry fighting vehicles, artillery systems, air defense platforms](#), and weapons of all calibers. These totals include the equivalent of [seven years of Javelin missile production](#). In a setting where Russian artillery systems can fire nearly 60,000 rounds of all types—rockets, missiles, drones, and hard-shell ammunition—a day, Ukrainian forces are hard-pressed to answer these Russian salvos with 6,000 rounds daily. [New platform and ammunition packages](#) for Ukraine may enrich the Washington community, but they cannot change these conditions.

Predictably, Washington's frustration with the collective West's failure to stem the tide of Ukrainian defeat is growing. In fact, the frustration is rapidly giving way to desperation.

[Michael Rubin](#), a former Bush appointee and avid supporter of America's permanent conflicts in the Middle East and Afghanistan, [vented his frustration](#) in a [1945](#) article asserting that, "if the world allows Russia to [remain a unitary state](#), and if it allows [Putinism](#) to survive Putin, then, Ukraine should be allowed to maintain its own nuclear deterrence, whether it joins NATO or not." On its

face, the suggestion is reckless, but the statement does accurately reflect the anxiety in Washington circles that Ukrainian defeat is inevitable.

NATO's members were never strongly united behind Washington's crusade to fatally weaken Russia. The governments of Hungary and Croatia are simply acknowledging the wider [European public's opposition to war](#) with Russia and lack of support for Washington's desire to postpone Ukraine's foreseeable defeat.

Though sympathetic to the Ukrainian people, [Berlin did not support](#) all-out war with Russia on Ukraine's behalf. Now, Germans are also uneasy with the [catastrophic condition](#) of the German armed forces.

Retired [German Air Force General \(four-star equivalent\) Harald Kujat](#), former chairman of the NATO Military Committee, [severely criticized Berlin](#) for allowing Washington to railroad Germany into conflict with Russia, noting that several decades of German political leaders actively disarmed Germany and thus deprived Berlin of authority or credibility in Europe. Though actively suppressed by the German government and media, his comments are resonating strongly with the German electorate.

The blunt fact is that in its efforts to secure victory in its proxy war with Russia, Washington ignores historical reality. From the 13th century onward, Ukraine was a region dominated by larger, more powerful national powers, whether Lithuanian, Polish, Swedish, Austrian, or Russian.

In the aftermath of the First World War, abortive Polish designs for an independent Ukrainian State were conceived to [weaken Bolshevik Russia](#). Today, Russia is not communist, nor does Moscow seek the [destruction of the Polish State](#) as Trotsky, Lenin, Stalin, and their followers did in 1920.

So where is Washington headed with its proxy war against Russia? The question deserves an answer.

On Sunday December 7, 1941, U.S. Ambassador Averell Harriman was with Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill having dinner at Churchill's home when the BBC broadcast the news that the Japanese had attacked the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor. [Harriman was visibly shocked](#). He simply repeated the words, "The Japanese have raided Pearl Harbor."

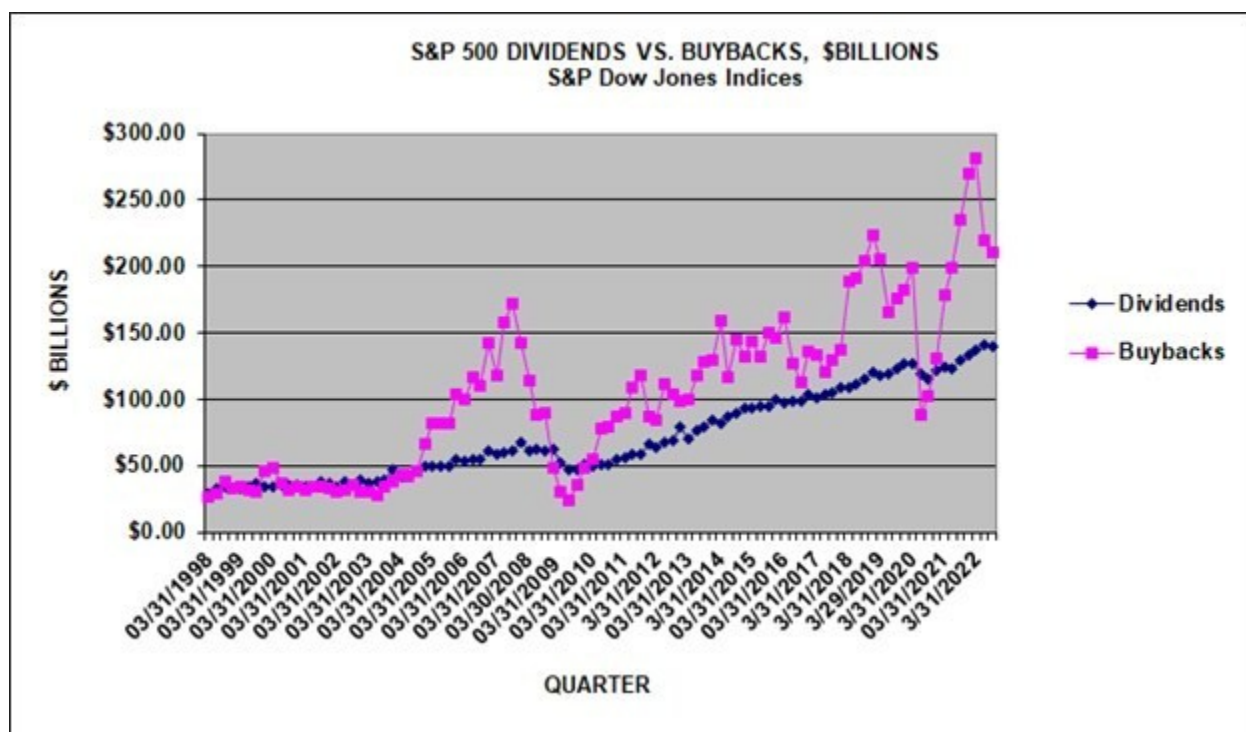
Harriman need not have been surprised. The Roosevelt administration had practically done everything in its power to [goad Tokyo into attacking U.S. forces](#) in the Pacific with a series of [hostile policy decisions](#) culminating in Washington's oil embargo during the summer of 1941.

In the Second World War, Washington was lucky with timing and allies. This time it's different. Washington and its NATO allies are advocating [a full-blown war against Russia](#), the devastation and breakup of the Russian Federation, as well as the destruction of millions of lives in Russia and Ukraine.

Washington emotes. Washington does not think, and it is also [overtly hostile to empiricism and truth](#). Neither we nor our allies are prepared to fight all-out war with Russia, regionally or globally. The point is, if war breaks out between Russia and the United States, Americans should not be surprised. The Biden administration and its [bipartisan supporters](#) in Washington are doing all they possibly can to make it happen.

**Government, stats, markets: jan30 2022
buybacks up to q3: Jun 16, 2022: "S&P 500
Buybacks Set Quarterly and 12-Month Records"
- Again**

**S&P 500 Buybacks Decline
4.0% but Energy Buybacks
increase 64.5%; Proforma
Buyback Tax Would Have
Reduced Operating
Earnings by 0.46%**



- **Buybacks remained top heavy with the top 20 companies accounting for 49.0% of Q3 2022 buybacks**, an increase from Q2 2022's 46.8%, but down from the 53.8% in Q3 2021, and up from the pre-COVID historical average of 44.5%.

Financials increased their buybacks after last quarter's significant pull back, as their Q3 2022 expenditures increased 8.5% to \$23.0 billion, representing 10.9% of the buybacks, from the Q2 2022 \$21.2 billion, which represented 9.7% of all buybacks, but was 62.8% less than their Q3 2021 expenditure of \$61.9 billion.

- **For the 12-months ending September 2022, buybacks were \$981.6 billion**, down from the record \$1.005 trillion posted for the June 2022 period, and up from the \$742.2 billion spent in the September 2021 time period.
- **Total shareholder returns for the 12-months ending September 2022 increased to a record \$1.534 trillion** from the September 2021 \$1.241 trillion.

S&P 500 Buybacks Decline 4.0% but Energy Buybacks increase 64.5%; Proforma Buyback Tax Would Have Reduced Operating Earnings by 0.46%

NEWS PROVIDED BY
S&P Dow Jones Indices
Dec 19, 2022, 09:30 ET

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- **S&P 500 Q3 2022 buybacks were \$210.8 billion, down 4.0% from Q2 2022's \$219.6 billion, as participation declined**
- **Financials increased 8.5% from Q2, but remained down 62.8% from Q3 2021, as Energy went up 64.5% from Q2 and up 640% from Q3 2021**
- **On a proforma basis, the new net buyback 1% excise tax, which starts in 2023, would have reduced Q3 2022 operating earnings by 0.46%**

NEW YORK, Dec. 19, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- S&P Dow Jones Indices ("S&P DJI") announced today preliminary [S&P 500®](https://www.spdji.com/indices/equity/sp-500) stock buybacks, or share repurchases, data for Q3 2022.

Historical data on S&P 500 buybacks are available at www.spdji.com/indices/equity/sp-500.

Key Takeaways:

- **Q3 2022 share repurchases were \$210.8 billion**, down 4.0% from Q2 2022's \$219.6 billion expenditure and down 10.1% from Q3 2021's \$234.6 billion.
- **319 companies reported buybacks of at least \$5 million for the quarter**, down from 331 in Q2 2022 and up from 309 in Q3 2021; 384 companies did some buybacks for the quarter, the same as in Q2 2022 and up from 371 in Q3 2021; 441 companies did some buybacks for the 12-months ending September 2022, up from 424 in the prior 2021 period.
- **Buybacks remained top heavy with the top 20 companies accounting for 49.0% of Q3 2022 buybacks**, an increase from Q2 2022's 46.8%, but down from the 53.8% in Q3 2021, and up from the pre-COVID historical average of 44.5%.
- **For the 12-months ending September 2022, buybacks were \$981.6 billion, down from the record \$1.005 trillion posted for the June 2022 period, and up from the \$742.2 billion spent in the September 2021 time period.**

- **21.2% of companies reduced share counts used for earnings-per-share (EPS) by at least 4% year-over-year**, up from Q2 2022's 19.8% and Q3 2021's 7.4%, and down from the pre-COVID Q3 2019 rate of 22.8%.
- **S&P 500 Q3 2022 dividends decreased 0.2% to \$140.3 billion** from Q2 2022's record \$140.6 billion and were 7.9% greater than the \$130.0 billion in Q3 2021. For the 12-months ending September 2022, dividends were a record \$552.4 billion, up 10.7% on an aggregate basis from the 12-month's September 2021's \$498.9 billion.
- **Total shareholders return of buybacks and dividends declined to \$351.2 billion in Q3 2022**, down 2.5% from Q2 2022's \$360.2 billion and down 3.7% from Q3 2021's \$364.7 billion.
- **Total shareholder returns for the 12-months ending September 2022 increased to a record \$1.534 trillion** from the September 2021 \$1.241 trillion.
- **On a proforma basis, the new 1% excise tax on net buybacks, which will start in 2023, would have reduced the Q3 2022 S&P 500 operating earnings by 0.46% and as reported GAAP earnings by 0.52%; for 2021 it would have reduced operating by 0.45% and as reported GAAP by 0.47%.**

"Companies, led by Financials, continued to pull back from their Q1 record-breaking buyback expenditures. However, energy has reentered the market at a time when the sector's shares are up substantially for the year," said **Howard Silverblatt, Senior Index Analyst at S&P Dow Jones Indices**. "The math of lower stock prices has resulted in more shares repurchased with 21.2% of the companies in the S&P 500 increasing their earnings-per-share by at least 4% thanks to their newly lowered share counts. The impact is expected to increase in Q4 2022 as companies appear to have accelerated their buybacks from Q1 2023 to Q4 2022 to avoid the new buyback tax."

1% Buyback Excise Tax for 2023:

On a proforma basis, the new 1% excise tax on net buybacks would have reduced Q3 2022 operating earnings by 0.46%, down from the proforma 0.48% for Q3 2021, with as reported GAAP earnings being reduced by 0.52%, up from the proforma 0.50% for Q3 2021. For the proforma 12-months period ending in September 2022, the tax would have cost S&P 500 companies \$9.0 billion, and would have reduced operating earnings by 0.53% and as reported GAAP earnings by 0.57%.

Silverblatt added: "While going from zero to anything is the biggest increase, the 1% tax is an additional cost, but it is still not significant enough to impact overall buybacks at this point. However, some buybacks planned for 2023 appear to have been moved into Q4 2022. The buyback tax had bipartisan support, so there is a good possibility that the 1% level is only the opening rate, which if increased enough could shift some of the shareholder returns to dividends."

Q3 2022 GICS® Sector Analysis :

Information Technology continued to lead in buybacks, as its percentage of buybacks and aggregate expenditures decreased. In Q3 2022, IT's share decreased to 28.8% of all S&P 500 buybacks compared to Q2 2022's 32.8% and Q3 2021's 28.2%, as expenditures decreased (15.5%) to \$60.8 billion from the prior quarter's \$72.0 billion and were 8.0% lower than the Q3 2021 expenditure of \$66.1 billion. For the 12-months ending September 2022, the sector spent \$279.2 billion, representing 28.4% of all S&P buybacks, compared to the 2021 12-month \$241.3 billion expenditure, which represented 32.5% of all buybacks. For the 10-years, the sector spent \$1.857 trillion, representing 29.0% of the expenditures.

Financials increased their buybacks after last quarter's significant pull back, as their Q3 2022 expenditures increased 8.5% to \$23.0 billion, representing 10.9% of the buybacks, from the Q2 2022 \$21.2 billion, which represented 9.7% of all buybacks, but was 62.8% less than their Q3 2021 expenditure of \$61.9 billion.

Energy continued to increase their buybacks, as they increased their expenditures by 64.5% for the quarter, to \$22.0 billion (on a sector basis, second only to its Q4 2007 \$25.3 billion expenditure), from the prior quarter's \$13.4 billion and were up 640% from the Q3 2021 \$3.0 billion. For the 12-months, buybacks were \$51.6 billion compared to the prior period's \$5.4 billion, an 853% increase.

Health Care buybacks increased 17.2% (after decreasing 58.2% last quarter), spending \$20.2 billion in Q3 2022, representing 9.6% of all buybacks, up from the Q2 2022 \$17.2 billion, which accounted for 7.8% of the buybacks, and were 24.6% higher than the Q3 2021 expenditure of \$16.2 billion.

Issues:

The five issues with the highest total buybacks for Q3 2022 are:

- **Apple (AAPL)**: continued to be the poster child for buybacks as it once again spent the most of any issue, with its Q3 2022 expenditure ranking as the third highest in S&P 500 history. For the quarter, the company spent \$24.7 billion, up 0.7% from Q2 2022's \$24.6 billion. Apple holds 18 of the top 20 record quarters (Meta Platforms holds #11 and QUALCOMM holds #12). For the 12-months ending September 2022, Apple spent \$95.6 billion on buybacks, up from the prior 12-month's \$92.5 billion. Over the five-year period, they have spent \$409.1 billion and \$582.0 billion over the ten-year period.
- **Alphabet (GOOG/L)**: was next with \$15.4 billion for Q3 2022, up from \$15.2 billion in Q2 2022; the 12-month September 2022 expenditure was \$57.4 billion versus the 12-month September 2021 expenditure of \$44.7 billion.
- **Meta Platforms (META)**: \$7.4 billion for Q3 2022, up from \$6.2 billion in Q2 2022; the 12-month September 2022 expenditure was \$45.6 billion versus \$31.5 billion.
- **Microsoft (MSFT)**: \$5.6 billion for Q3 2022, down from \$8.8 billion in Q2 2022; the 12-month September 2022 expenditure was \$30.6 billion versus \$28.3 billion.
- **Exxon Mobile (XOM)**: returning to the top five for the first time since Q3 2014, the former poster child of buybacks spent \$4.5 billion in Q3 2022, up from \$3.9 billion in Q2 2022 and nothing in Q3 2021; the 12-month September 2022 expenditure was \$10.6 billion versus \$0.1 billion.

For more information about S&P Dow Jones Indices, please visit www.spdji.com.

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PERIOD	U.S. BILLIONS		(preliminary in bold)					
			AS					
	MARKE	OPERATI	REPORTED	DIVIDEN				
	T	NG	D	D &				
	VALUE	EARNING	EARNING	DIVIDEN	BUYBAC	DIVIDEN	BUYBAC	BUYBAC
\$	S	S	DS	KS	D	K	K	
BILLION	\$	BILLION	BILLION	BILLION				
S	BILLIONS	S	S	S	S	YIELD	YIELD	YIELD
12 Mo								
Sep,'22	\$30,11	\$1,716.3	\$1,577.					
Prelim.	9	9	81	\$552.40	\$981.59	1.83 %	3.26 %	5.09 %
12 Mo	\$36,53	\$1,604.2	\$1,483.5					
Sep,'21	8	1	0	\$498.95	\$742.21	1.37 %	2.03 %	3.40 %
	\$40,35	\$1,738.6	\$1,652.7					
2021	6	2	8	\$511.23	\$881.72	1.27 %	2.18 %	3.45 %

2020	\$31,659	\$1,019.04	\$784.21	\$483.18	\$519.76	1.53 %	1.64 %	3.17 %
2019	\$26,760	\$1,304.76	\$1,158.22	\$485.48	\$728.74	1.81 %	2.72 %	4.54 %
2018	\$21,027	\$1,281.66	\$1,119.43	\$456.31	\$806.41	2.17 %	3.84 %	6.01 %
9/30/2022 Prelim.	\$30,119	\$423.86	\$372.20	\$140.34	\$210.84	1.83 %	3.26 %	5.09 %
6/30/2022	\$31,903	\$395.02	\$360.21	\$140.56	\$219.64	1.70 %	3.15 %	4.85 %
3/31/2022	\$38,288	\$417.16	\$388.68	\$137.60	\$281.01	1.37 %	2.57 %	3.94 %
12/31/2021	\$40,356	\$480.35	\$456.72	\$133.90	\$270.10	1.27 %	2.18 %	3.45 %
9/30/2021	\$36,538	\$441.26	\$420.64	\$130.04	\$234.64	1.37 %	2.03 %	3.40 %
6/30/2021	\$36,325	\$439.95	\$409.02	\$123.38	\$198.84	1.33 %	1.68 %	3.01 %
3/31/2021	\$33,619	\$401.19	\$388.84	\$123.91	\$178.13	1.43 %	1.48 %	2.91 %
12/31/2020	\$31,659	\$321.81	\$265.00	\$121.62	\$130.59	1.53 %	1.64 %	3.17 %
9/30/2020	\$27,868	\$314.06	\$273.29	\$115.54	\$101.79	1.75 %	2.05 %	3.80 %
6/30/2020	\$25,637	\$221.53	\$147.44	\$119.04	\$88.66	1.93 %	2.52 %	4.45 %
3/31/2020	\$21,424	\$161.64	\$98.48	\$126.98	\$198.72	2.31 %	3.37 %	5.68 %
12/31/2019	\$26,760	\$324.52	\$294.29	\$126.35	\$181.58	1.81 %	2.72 %	4.54 %
9/30/2019	\$24,707	\$330.42	\$282.12	\$123.12	\$175.89	1.94 %	3.12 %	5.06 %
6/28/2019	\$24,423	\$333.26	\$290.00	\$118.68	\$165.46	1.93 %	3.27 %	5.20 %
3/29/2019	\$23,619	\$316.56	\$291.82	\$117.33	\$205.81	1.97 %	3.49 %	5.45 %
12/31/2018	\$21,027	\$293.82	\$242.91	\$119.81	\$222.98	2.17 %	3.84 %	6.01 %
9/30/2018	\$24,579	\$349.04	\$306.70	\$115.72	\$203.76	1.81 %	2.93 %	4.75 %

S&P Dow Jones Indices
S&P 500 SECTOR BUYBACKS

SECTOR \$ MILLIONS	Q3,'22	Q2,'22	Q3,'21	12MoSep,'22	12MoSep,'21	5-YEARS	10-YEARS
Consumer Discretionary	\$19,542	\$27,639	\$20,553	\$106,308	\$64,528	\$367,413	\$778,679
Consumer Staples	\$11,316	\$10,662	\$8,337	\$43,213	\$35,599	\$167,612	\$393,701
Energy	\$22,014	\$13,383	\$2,974	\$51,563	\$5,410	\$115,340	\$234,190
Financials	\$23,027	\$21,216	\$61,927	\$150,447	\$152,693	\$732,867	\$1,167,286
Healthcare	\$20,152	\$17,201	\$16,170	\$100,327	\$69,336	\$417,096	\$757,813

Industrials	\$17,113	\$17,834	\$17,567	\$75,960	\$53,241	\$305,788	\$636,115
Information Technology	\$60,771	\$71,956	\$66,060	\$279,174	\$241,262	\$1,205,391	\$1,857,180
Materials	\$5,678	\$8,726	\$5,252	\$31,082	\$16,534	\$85,303	\$152,772
Real Estate	\$793	\$1,127	\$272	\$3,696	\$1,473	\$14,411	\$17,700
Communication Services	\$30,297	\$29,441	\$35,230	\$137,113	\$100,860	\$361,276	\$390,032
Utilities	\$140	\$453	\$299	\$2,710	\$1,272	\$12,590	\$18,598
TOTAL	\$210,843	\$219,637	\$234,640	\$981,593	\$742,209	\$3,785,087	\$6,404,065

SECTOR BUYBACK MAKEUP %	Q3,'22	Q2,'22	Q3,'21	12MoSep,'22	12MoSep,'21	5-YEARS	10-YEARS
Consumer Discretionary	9.27 %	12.58 %	8.76 %	10.83 %	8.69 %	9.71 %	12.16 %
Consumer Staples	5.37 %	4.85 %	3.55 %	4.40 %	4.80 %	4.43 %	6.15 %
Energy	10.44 %	6.09 %	1.27 %	5.25 %	0.73 %	3.05 %	3.66 %
Financials	10.92 %	9.66 %	26.39 %	15.33 %	20.57 %	19.36 %	18.23 %
Healthcare	9.56 %	7.83 %	6.89 %	10.22 %	9.34 %	11.02 %	11.83 %
Industrials	8.12 %	8.12 %	7.49 %	7.74 %	7.17 %	8.08 %	9.93 %
Information Technology	28.82 %	32.76 %	28.15 %	28.44 %	32.51 %	31.85 %	29.00 %
Materials	2.69 %	3.97 %	2.24 %	3.17 %	2.23 %	2.25 %	2.39 %
Real Estate	0.38 %	0.51 %	0.12 %	0.38 %	0.20 %	0.38 %	0.28 %
Communication Services	14.37 %	13.40 %	15.01 %	13.97 %	13.59 %	9.54 %	6.09 %
Utilities	0.07 %	0.21 %	0.13 %	0.28 %	0.17 %	0.33 %	0.29 %
TOTAL	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
S&P Dow Jones Indices S&P 500 20 LARGEST Q3 2022 BUYBACKS, \$ MILLIONS							

Company	Ticker	Sector	Q3 2022 Buybac	Q2 2021 Buybac	Q3 20221 Buyback	12-Months Sep,'22	12-Months Sep,'21	5-Year Buybac	10-Year Buyback	Indicated Divide
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			ks \$ Million	ks \$ Million	s \$ Million	\$ Million	\$ Million	ks \$ Million	s \$ Million	nd \$ Million
Apple	AAPL	Information Technology	\$24,736	\$24,562	\$20,449	\$95,625	\$92,527	\$409,123	\$582,041	\$13,898
		Communication Services	\$15,392	\$15,197	\$12,610	\$57,362	\$44,705	\$154,884	\$163,102	\$0
Meta Platforms	META	Communication Services	\$7,365	\$6,235	\$15,033	\$45,600	\$31,532	\$108,389	\$115,597	\$0
Microsoft	MSFT	Information Technology	\$5,573	\$8,757	\$7,684	\$30,585	\$28,326	\$116,316	\$172,130	\$20,285
		Energy	\$4,494	\$3,919	\$0	\$10,634	\$12,492	\$12,492	\$52,459	\$15,170
Mobil	XOM	Consumer Staples	\$4,000	\$1,250	\$2,750	\$11,253	\$11,759	\$41,922	\$64,291	\$8,722
Procter & Gamble	PG	Consumer Discretionary	\$3,999	\$4,091	\$2,825	\$16,140	\$12,442	\$37,598	\$56,537	\$2,684
Lowe's Companies	LOW	Energy	\$3,908	\$0	\$928	\$9,496	\$1,912	\$16,395	\$24,603	\$1,496
Marathon Petroleum	MPC	Information Technology	\$3,779	\$3,650	\$439	\$10,579	\$1,508	\$16,000	\$20,789	\$401
NVIDIA	NVDA	Energy	\$3,697	\$1,689	\$618	\$5,386	\$618	\$12,124	\$22,210	\$10,229
Chevron	CVX	Communication Services	\$3,525	\$3,065	\$1,660	\$11,868	\$2,722	\$22,066	\$45,381	\$4,756
Comcast	CMCSA	Health Care	\$3,500	\$1,006	\$2,611	\$7,295	\$8,011	\$20,751	\$26,260	\$1,367
Cigna	CI	Consumer Staples	\$2,961	\$3,339	\$2,168	\$11,127	\$8,807	\$35,887	\$65,594	\$3,193
Walmart	WMT	Energy	\$2,804	\$2,300	\$1,243	\$7,928	\$2,390	\$18,500	\$20,690	\$2,597
ConocoPhillips	COP	Financials	\$2,608	\$2,837	\$3,628	\$11,973	\$9,278	\$35,895	\$47,763	\$4,151
Morgan Stanley	MS	Financials	\$2,512	\$1,508	\$10	\$11,091	\$60	\$15,557	\$19,970	\$1,158
S&P Global	SPGI	Communication Services	\$2,225	\$3,687	\$3,666	\$13,842	\$15,183	\$51,132	\$60,521	\$0
Charter Communications	CHTR	Health Care	\$2,165	\$973	\$391	\$5,711	\$2,781	\$24,821	\$55,373	\$11,884
Visa	V	Information Technology	\$2,106	\$2,434	\$2,969	\$11,709	\$8,820	\$44,807	\$71,674	\$2,943
		Industrials	\$2,024	\$290	\$1,361	\$6,942	\$6,595	\$31,653	\$46,843	\$3,247
Union Pacific	UNP		\$103,373	\$90,789	\$83,043	\$392,146	\$290,077	\$1,226,312	\$1,733,828	\$108,182
Top 20			\$210,843	\$219,637	\$234,640	\$981,593	\$742,209	\$3,785,087	\$6,404,065	\$568,648
S&P 500										
Top 20 of S&P 500			49.03 %	41.34 %	35.39 %	39.95 %	39.08 %	32.40 %	27.07 %	19.02 %
Gross values are not adjusted for float										
S&P Dow Jones Indices										

**S&P 500 Q3
2022
Buyback
Report**

SECTOR	DIVIDE ND YIELD	BUYBAC K YIELD	COMBIN ED YIELD
Consumer Discretionar y	1.03 %	3.17 %	4.20 %
Consumer Staples	2.56 %	1.87 %	4.43 %
Energy	3.66 %	3.26 %	6.92 %
Financials	2.14 %	4.00 %	6.14 %
HealthCare	1.60 %	1.93 %	3.53 %
Industrials	1.69 %	2.70 %	4.39 %
Information Technology	1.12 %	3.20 %	4.32 %
Materials	2.06 %	3.46 %	5.52 %
Real Estate	3.38 %	0.41 %	3.79 %
Communicat ions			
Services	1.40 %	7.01 %	8.41 %
Utilities	3.00 %	0.27 %	3.27 %
S&P 500	1.75 %	3.02 %	4.76 %

Uses full
values
(unadjusted
for float)

Dividends based on indicated;
buybacks based on the last 12-
months ending Q3,'22

**Share
Count
Chang
es
(Y/Y
dilute
d
shares
used
for
EPS)**

	>=4%	<=- 4%
Q3 2022	7.21 %	21.24 %
Q2 2022	8.42 %	19.84 %
Q1 2022	7.62 %	17.64 %
Q4 2021	10.06 %	14.89 %
Q3 2021	10.22 %	7.41 %
Q2 2021	11.02 %	5.41 %
Q1 2021	10.40 %	5.80 %
Q4 2020	9.02 %	6.01 %
Q3 2020	8.62 %	9.62 %
Q2 2020	8.60 %	17.80 %
Q1 2020	8.00 %	19.60 %
Q4	7.63 %	20.68 %

2019	%	%
Q3	8.62	22.85
2019	%	%

Journal, energy: jan30 TSVETANA PARASKOVA, top ranked writer on top ranked energy markets website in the united states appears to be using a 'pen name'. Why are all these indepth markets writers always anonymous; zh being the obvious first example that should come to mind.

India, markets, war: jan30 now 68 billion loss...lol.massive indian conglomerate...Adani Wipeout Hits \$68 Billion; Despite Turmoil, UAE Sees Investment Opportunity

Markets, war, india: jan29 Adani Publishes 413-Page Report Saying Hindenburg's Short Attack Is 'Calculated' Fraud; report led to a \$50 billion selloff in Adani's corporate empire.

US short-seller Hindenburg Research and Indian billionaire Gautam Adani are locked in an epic game of ping pong as both throw barbs at each other.

Last week, Hindenburg published [a 100-page report](#) alleging Adani's company Adani Enterprises Ltd. is built on accounting fraud, while Adani's legal team called the short report "[maliciously mischievous and unresearched](#)."

Hindenburg's report led to a [\\$50 billion selloff](#) in Adani's corporate empire.

Markets, war: jan29 Massive Fire Destroys Commercial Egg Farm Belonging To Top US Supplier

Dozens of food processing plants were destroyed and/or damaged last year by "[accidental fires](#)." After several months of a lull in mysterious fires rippling

through the food industry, the first major one of the new year was reported by [NBC Connecticut](#) on Saturday.

More than 100 firefighters battled a massive fire at a commercial egg farm in Bozrah, Connecticut, on Saturday afternoon.

According to [Epoch Times](#), firefighters spent hours extinguishing a 150-foot-by-400-foot chicken coop at Hillandale Farms, which contained about 100,000 chickens.

A Salvation Army canteen truck was on the scene, providing food. According to the Salvation Army, about 100,000 chickens may have died in the fire. It also said that no injuries had been reported.

Here's the video of the fire:

Crypto, markets: jan29 "HODLers Held The Line" - Bitcoin Tops \$24k As "Capitulation Has Clearly Unfolded"

Government, inflation: jan29 Millions To See Food Stamp Payment Decrease After February, Federal Agency Says

"All SNAP households have or will see a decrease to the SNAP benefits they receive when emergency allotments end..."

Government, inflation: jan28 "It's The Perfect Storm": More Americans Can't Afford Their Car Payments Than During The Peak Of Financial Crisis

Jeremy Cross, the president of International Recovery Systems in Pennsylvania, said he can't find enough repo men to meet the demand or space to hold all the cars his company has been tasked with repossessing

**Russia Warns of 'Full-Blown Conflict in Europe':
"The leaders of the US and their NATO client states have come close to a red line. Their deliberate actions to escalate the military confrontation in Ukraine - provoking the regime into military action against the Russian population using Western heavy weapons and NATO intelligence - is a direct path to a full-blown military conflict in Europe," he said, arguing that all people on the continent "definitely stand to lose" from such a war;
"Their masks have long been thrown off. They are no longer embarrassed to say directly that this is not at all about the struggle for some kind of Ukrainian statehood, but about the promotion of the 'rules-based world order' being formed by the West," Buyakevich continued, citing recent comments by German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock, who declared that "we are fighting a war against Russia" earlier this week.**

HOME PERMANENT MISSION ACTUAL INFORMATION RUSSIA-OSCE USEFUL LINKS

Current information / News / M.V. Buyakevich on the ongoing crimes of the Kyiv regime and the dangerous policy of the Western Alliance countries to escalate tensions, January 26, 2023

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 - Russia Day
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 - Russia - OSCE on the website of the Russian Foreign Ministry
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 - Events in the Hofburg
 - Calendar of major OSCE events
- useful links
 - Embassy of Russia in Austria
 - Permanent Mission of Russia to the Moscow Region
 - Russian Center for Science and Culture in Vienna
 - Trade Representation of Russia in Austria

News

M.V. Buyakevich on the ongoing crimes of the Kyiv regime and the dangerous policy of the Western Alliance countries to escalate tensions, January 26, 2023

Performance

Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation
M.V. BUYAKEVICH
at a meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
January 26, 2023

*On the ongoing crimes of the Kyiv regime
and the dangerous policy of the countries of the Western
alliance
escalating tension*

Mr Chairman,

On January 20, at the American Ramstein Air Base (Germany), at a meeting of the contact group on military supplies of the Kiev regime, which aims to "destroy Russia as a country" (NSDC Secretary A. Donilov, Kiev, December 1, 2022), NATO countries agreed on decisions that deepen their involvement in armed confrontation with Russian troops. These decisions are aimed at qualitatively strengthening the military escalation, increasing the intensity of hostilities, and will definitely cause further civilian casualties and additional destruction in many settlements.

Following the mentioned meeting, the coordinated position of a number of NATO member states was announced, which expressed their readiness (some with undisguised enthusiasm, and some under pressure from the United States and their Kyiv protégés) to provide the Kyiv regime with heavy weapons, including Leopard-type tanks, "Abrams" etc. They are planned to be used as

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enlarge the map

Stats, censorship: jan28 ableism.....is now offensive at universities.....definition of ableism, a word that I didn't know existed until i read this article:"discrimination in favor of able-bodied people. "a person with a disability can struggle with ableism""

The University of Aberdeen in Scotland put a trigger warning on "Beowulf" due to its depictions of "animal cruelty" and "ableism." Beowulf had to fear "a creature of darkness, exiled from happiness and accursed of God, the destroyer and devourer of our human kind." However, Aberdeen students have the added fear that they may run across depictions from 975 which "place value on people's bodies and minds based on societally constructed ideas of normality, intelligence, excellence, desirability, and productivity." [Notably, even that definition is [preceded at Stanford](#) by a trigger warning that "*Content warning: The following page contains content including the historical context of ableism. It may be disturbing to those with a history of institutionalization or other negative experiences in the medical world concerning their specific disabilities.*"]

A screenshot of a Google search for the word 'ableism'. The search results page shows the Google logo, the search bar with 'ableism', and navigation links for All, Images, News, Videos, Books, and More. Below the search bar, it says 'About 8,580,000 results (0.38 seconds)'. The main content area includes a 'Dictionary' section with definitions from Oxford Languages, a 'Translate ableism to' section with a language dropdown, and a 'Use over time for: ableism' graph showing mentions from 1800 to 2019. A blue arrow points from the graph to the 'Ableism' knowledge panel on the right. The knowledge panel includes a title 'Ableism', a brief definition, and a 'Wikipedia' link. Below the knowledge panel, there is a 'People also ask' section with two questions: 'What are examples of ableism?' and 'What is considered ableism?'. The Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom of the browser window.

Even the death of an albatross in “Rime of the Ancient Mariner” required a trigger warning at the University of Greenwich as “potentially upsetting.”

There is trigger warning imposed by the University of Warwick for Thomas Hardy’s “Far From the Madding Crowd” because of its depiction of “rural life.”

Of course, the British are not alone in such warnings. The [National Archives recently moved to add trigger warnings](#) to displays on our founders and founding documents.

Trigger warning: I am about to quote Shakespeare....

This all proves the Bard’s point that **“Nothing routs us but the villainy of our fears.”**

many universities have added trigger warnings to classic works of literature in order to warn students that they contain racist or homophobic language

Students warned tragedy may be too ‘triggering’

University of Derby staff tell students that the genre is 'obsessed with violence and suffering, often of a sexual or graphic kind'

By [Craig Simpson](#) 25 January 2023 • 10:39am

Shakespeare's King Lear is one of the plays taught on the literature module CREDIT: Johan Persson

Tragedy may be [too “triggering” for modern students](#), academics have warned.

The dramatic art form has entranced audiences from Ancient Greece to the Shakespearean stage, but has now been deemed potentially upsetting by staff at the University of Derby.

Students embarking on a literature module covering tragedy, including celebrated examples like Hamlet and King Lear, are warned that the genre is “obsessed... with suffering” and could prove “triggering”.

Athenian dramas concerning the deaths of mythical kings, and Arthur Miller’s classic Death of a Salesman, are also on the reading list for the module, which has been given a blanket advisory on how the tragic could be troubling.

[The warning](#), as seen by The Telegraph, states: “Tragedy is a genre obsessed with violence and suffering, often of a sexual or graphic kind, and so some of the content might be triggering for some students.

“If you feel that your engagement with particular texts or themes is going to present challenges, do speak to me in advance of the class.”

Literary classics given warnings

1. Beowulf - University of Aberdeen

The Anglo-Saxon tale of foul monsters and a fire-breathing dragon being slain was given a warning for “animal cruelty” and “ableism”.

[Expand to read more](#)

University staff said the warning was deemed necessary because “any of the plays explicitly engage with themes of violence and trauma, frequently sexual in nature”.

The plays in the module span 2,500 years of literature, beginning with the works of Aeschylus, whose Oresteia tells of numerous mythological murders, and Sophocles, whose drama Oedipus Rex tells the story of a king who sleeps with his mother and kills his father.

‘The real tragedy is the use of trigger warnings’

Professor Frank Furedi, an education expert at the University of Kent, [criticised the broad trigger warning](#) and said that tragedy is meant to cause upset.

“In order to draw a reader or an audience into the drama, tragedy is meant to provoke emotional upheaval and cause upset,” he said.

“If they fail to provoke strong emotions then a tragedy is anything but tragic. There is no such thing as a safe tragedy and students who wish to study this literary form have to live with it.

“A trigger warning is merely a banal way of saying beware of engaging with this wonderful art form. The real tragedy is the use of trigger warnings for grown-up students who are about to encounter their first taste of Euripides.”

The University of Derby said that the trigger warning is given “because many of the plays explicitly engage with themes of violence and trauma, frequently sexual in nature, and the module leader believes that students benefit from being made aware of this before classes begin”.

Censorship, government: jan28 trigger warnings at uninversities: When universities say even a trigger warning is triggering, it's hard not to pity the students. "The compilers of the Stanford list, however, have decided that the term "trigger warning" is itself triggering - because it "can cause stress about what's to follow"."

COMMENT

When universities say even a trigger warning is triggering, it's hard not to pity the students

Thanks to their baffling banned terms, Stanford is no longer a leading American college - not least because they say 'American' is offensive

MICHAEL DEACON

COLUMNIST & ASSISTANT EDITOR

21 December 2022 • 6:07pm

I must admit, I'm feeling rather guilty. In countless previous columns, I've suggested that students nowadays are comically sanctimonious.

But perhaps it isn't actually the students' fault. They're just following the example set by even more sanctimonious university staff.

I've been contemplating this possibility ever since I read a story about Stanford, a leading American university. Some of its staff, it seems, have been working on what they call an "Elimination of Harmful Language Initiative". This consists of an extremely long list of words and phrases which they believe students should never use, because they're far too offensive.

Almost all of it, however, is utterly bewildering. So much so, it makes me feel sorry for the students. The most baffling thing I had to read at university was Finnegans Wake. But it had nothing on this.

In the context of scientific research, for example, students are instructed to avoid the term "blind study", because it "perpetuates [the idea] that disability is somehow abnormal". Instead, students should use the term "masked study". Until, presumably, the staff decide that "masked study" is hurtful to sadomasochists, by perpetuating the idea that they're somehow abnormal, too.

In the context of computing, meanwhile, students are ordered not to use the word "user". Apparently, it makes website users sound like drug addicts. Then again, students aren't supposed to use the word "addicts", either, because it stigmatises drug users. Sorry: I mean, "people with a substance use disorder".

Another offensive term, you may be intrigued to learn, is "prisoner". To avoid causing offence, the list recommends the phrase "person who is incarcerated". This is because, in the view of the compilers, it's hurtful to "define people by just one of their characteristics". Why, of course. We must never forget that murderers have feelings too.

As, indeed, do animals. According to the list, we should avoid using the old saying "There's more than one way to skin a cat", because it "normalises violence against animals". What evidence the compilers have for this claim, I'm not sure. Perhaps a study has confirmed that, after being told that there's more than one way to skin a cat, people are more likely to go out and try it. If so, I would call it a copycat

crime, but no doubt that would be offensive, as well. After all, this baseless association with plagiarism must be deeply hurtful to cats. No wonder they always seem so grumpy.

Believe it or not, another entry on the list is the word “American”. This is deemed offensive because it “often refers to people from the United States only, thereby insinuating that the US is the most important country in the Americas”. Clearly I shouldn’t have described Stanford as a leading American university. Or, for that matter, as a leading university.

Still, if you found that entry hard to fathom, wait till you hear the next one. In recent years, many universities have added trigger warnings to classic works of literature in order to warn students that they contain racist or homophobic language. The compilers of the Stanford list, however, have decided that the term “trigger warning” is itself triggering – because it “can cause stress about what’s to follow”. How university librarians are meant to resolve this conundrum, I don’t know. Perhaps they should add trigger warnings to the trigger warnings. But then the trigger warnings to the trigger warnings would need trigger warnings, too.

At any rate, there are countless other bizarre entries that I sadly haven’t got room to include. You may think it all sounds crazy. But if you do, please don’t say so, because the word “crazy” is on the banned list, too. It’s described as “ableist language” that “trivialises the experiences of people living with mental health conditions”.

As an alternative, the compilers suggest we use the word “surprising”. In this particular context, however, I really don’t think that will do. Because a university going woke is the least surprising thing in the world.

**Censorship, media, government: jan28 (2018?)
University of Manchester Bans Clapping and
Cheering As Marginalizing For Some Students,
Must Use Hand Signs Instead...**

The student union of the University of Manchester voted to ban clapping, whooping and cheering because some students might find these common forms of expression to be unwelcoming or alienating for some students. As a result, students are expected to use "Jazz hands" to show approval to maintain a welcoming environment.

The students are expected to use the British Sign Language (BSL) equivalent of a clap – a wave of both hands. The change was proposed [Student Union access officer Sara Khan](#).

nice excerpt on chinese censorship history. "It started in 1997: In 1997, a sweeping wave of regulations aimed at restricting internet usage was enacted. Section Five of the Computer Information Network and Internet Security, Protection, and Management Regulations was the first time pornography was specifically targeted and banned in China's criminal law. It defined obscene material as any "books, periodicals, movies, video-and audio-tapes, pictures, etc. that explicitly portray sexual behavior or undisguisedly publicize pornographic materials", but made exception for those used for medical or artistic purposes.[13] [14] The State Administration of Radio, Film and Television's prohibition on pornography has been complete, and the government has shown no signs of reversing its decision. Directors, producers, and actors involved in pornographic films have been barred from competing in any

film competitions. Any film studio found in violation may have its license revoked."

Government censorship[[edit](#)]

See also: [Censorship in China](#)

In 1997, a sweeping wave of regulations aimed at restricting internet usage was enacted. Section Five of the Computer Information Network and Internet Security, Protection, and Management Regulations was the first time pornography was specifically targeted and banned in China's criminal law. It defined obscene material as any "books, periodicals, movies, video-and audio-tapes, pictures, etc. that explicitly portray sexual behavior or undisguisedly publicize pornographic materials", but made exception for those used for medical or artistic purposes. ^{[13][14]}

The [State Administration of Radio, Film and Television](#)'s prohibition on pornography has been complete, and the government has shown no signs of reversing its decision. Directors, producers, and actors involved in pornographic films have been barred from competing in any film competitions. Any [film studio](#) found in violation may have its license revoked. ^[15]

Ideas[[edit](#)]

Chinese government consistently holds the idea that pornography information is harmful, arguing that "disseminating pornographic information online severely harms the physical and mental health of minors, and seriously corrupts social [ethos](#)", ^[16] ^[17] pornography information is close to "[spiritual pollution](#)". ^[18] [Xinhuanet](#) states that "[Chinese cultural traditions](#) and moral values do not allow obscene and pornographic information to spread unchecked on the Internet". ^[19]

Methods[[edit](#)]

The term [Great Firewall of China](#) was coined in 1997 by [Geremie Barmé](#) to describe the combination of legislative actions and technologies enforced by the [People's Republic of China](#) to regulate the [Internet](#) domestically. First introduced in 1997, three years after the internet first arrived in China, it included regulations prohibiting the use of the internet to disseminate sexually suggestive material, among other things. The Great Firewall is a subsystem of the [Golden Shield Project](#), also referred to as the "National Public Security Work Informational Project".

In its effort to combat internet pornography and other internet activity which it deemed illegal, the government of China issued the widespread use of internet censors. Algorithms designed by tech companies including [Alibaba](#) and Tuputech, these censors were designed to detect, block, and remove all sexual content. ^[21] The development of artificial intelligence technologies has been essential in the success of the censorship of internet pornography in China.

chinese censorship: "A crackdown of pornographic websites in 2004 lead to the arrests of over 200 people and the shutdown of over 700 pornographic websites including "99

Erotica", after having acquired more than 300,000 registered users within a year of its launch. One of those imprisoned, Wang Yanli, was believed to be the first woman jailed on a pornography related charge. She received a sentence of four years for operating an online strip club."

In 2005 authorities sentenced its eleven workers, among them teachers and civil servants, to imprisonment ranging from three to twelve years for disseminating [obscene material](#). In October 2006 authorities closed down "Erotica Juneday", which charged its highest-paying members 3,999 [yuan](#) (then around \$490) a year, and sentenced founder Chen Hui to life imprisonment.^[22] Among those who complained about the harshness of the [sentence](#) was the [sociologist](#) Li Yinhe. She called on authorities to either repeal the [pornography laws](#) in China or stop pretending the nation enjoys [freedom of expression](#).

2009-present[\[edit\]](#)

Between 2009 and 2010, crackdowns on pornography sites resulted in the arrests of thousands of people annually. In 2009, 5,394 people were arrested and 9,000 illegal porn-related sites were shut down.^[23] In 2010, Chinese authorities shut down 60,000 pornographic websites and arrested almost 5,000 suspects.^[24]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pornography_in_China

Stats, media: weird story

investmentwatchblog.com/woman-forgives-her-mothers-killer-visits-him-in-jail-upon-release-woman-gives-him-a-job-at-the-deceased-mothers-house-and-is-quickly-killed-too/

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Trending:

- Have You Heard Of The "Tradwife Movement"?
- The Food Supply is Contaminated With SPIKE PROTEINS
- DRAFT IS INEVITABLE
- Pathologist Shows SPIKE PROTEIN Inside Vaxies
- NEW PROJECT VERITAS JUST DROPPED!!!
- The Nuclear War That We Have Been Relentlessly Warned About Is Now Right On Our Doorstep
- The market is overbought heading into ANOTHER Fed rate hike, while the Fed takes liquidity down to ZERO. Today's investors are not thinking about what could go wrong, only about what could go right...
- The Russians are Going to Break Through Bakhmut
- Amazon's LOTR Series has Flopped HARD

Some people don't deserve forgiveness

Woman "forgives" her mothers killer and visits him in prison. Upon release she gives him a job working at the house where he killed her mother. He murders her in the same house. 🤯

7news.com.au/news/crime/tra...

4:13 AM · Jan 26, 2023

29.1K · Reply · Share

[Read 3.6K replies](#)

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What is the latest on ETFs? MarketViews

The latest trends on responsible investing MarketViews

Windows taskbar: Type here to search, 5:40 PM, 2023-01-27

: jan27 Woman "forgives" her mothers killer, visits him in jail. Upon release woman gives him a job at the deceased mothers house and is quickly killed too.

After her mother was killed in a home invasion gone wrong, Martha McKay was quick to forgive the person responsible.

Then, 23 years on from her murder, the unthinkable happened to Martha...

Described by its website as 'stately' and 'elegant,' Snowden House, with its marble floor and sweeping staircase, was the perfect setting for a murder mystery.

In fact, the grand building, situated on the water's edge of Horseshoe Lake, served as a location for a movie adaptation of one of John Grisham's crime novels...

www.thatslife.com.au/she-forgave-her-mums-killer-then-he-murdered-her-too

Stats, health, censorship: jan27 500% Increase in Autism in New York-New Jersey Region

Time frame: 2000-2016

What could be the cause? What also happened during that time frame?

SNIP

Documented cases of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in the New York-New Jersey metro region increased by as much as 500 percent between 2000 and 2016, with the highest increase among children without intellectual disabilities, according to a Rutgers University study.

This is the opposite of past findings, which have suggested that autism typically co-occurs with intellectual impairment.

“One of the assumptions about ASD is that it occurs alongside intellectual disabilities,” said Josephine Shenouda, an adjunct professor at the Rutgers School of Public Health and lead author of the study published today (January 26) in the journal *Pediatrics*. “This claim was supported by older studies suggesting that up to 75 percent of children with autism also have intellectual disability.”

“What our paper shows is that this assumption is not true,” Shenouda said. “In fact, in this study, two-in-three children with autism had no intellectual disability whatsoever.”

Using biannual data from the New Jersey Autism Study, researchers identified 4,661 8-year-olds with ASD in four New Jersey counties (Essex, Hudson, Ocean, and Union) during the study period. Of these, 1,505 (32.3 percent) had an intellectual disability; 2,764 (59.3 percent) did not.

Source:

scitechdaily.com/rutgers-finds-shocking-500-increase-in-autism-in-new-york-new-jersey-region/

Stats: jan27 cancer cover-up

This story is a follow-up to the documentary entitled "*Burzynski*", about a medical doctor and PhD biochemist, who in 1967—discovered a new group of small peptides in the human body.

After fleeing communist Poland to live in Houston, Texas in the 1970's, Stanislaw Burzynski, MD PhD continued to research his peptide discovery, and found that people diagnosed with cancer seemed to have low levels or lacked altogether these newly discovered peptides.

He hypothesized that replenishing these peptide levels in the bodies of people with cancer—could potentially be helpful in controlling their disease.

Burzynski learned to synthesize these peptides—patented them—and called them **Antineoplastons**.

He then launched a publicly traded corporation, and entered the United States Food & Drug Administration (FDA) clinical trial process to get **Antineoplastons** approved for market using his own newly formed pharmaceutical company—*Burzynski Research Institute, Inc.*

War, government, iran: jan27 Conservatives cheer EU 'retreat' on blacklisting IRGC: Javan daily, which is affiliated with the IRGC, wrote: "For a while, the Europeans played with the card of adding the IRGC to their terror list, but finally

they faced the real price of doing that and retreated."

Tech, government: jan27 Surveillance concerns as India issues new digital IDs in Kashmir:

"Even if the government intends to provide us with benefits by creating these new IDs, their authoritarian treatment towards the people of Jammu and Kashmir has made us doubt their intentions," he said.

"Families already use their ID cards if they need to access any social welfare programmes. So why is this required?" said Mehak, 22, who asked that her last name be withheld.

Regional authorities have said the JK Family ID, an eight-digit code assigned to each household, would improve access to social welfare benefits such as subsidised food grains.

It means families will not have to apply for benefits under various schemes, as eligibility decisions will be automated based on the data, said Prerna Puri, a commissioner in Indian-administered Kashmir's information technology department.

Across India, the government is undertaking a vast digitisation push, including health records, property titles, railway bookings and utility payments, as part of the Digital India programme aimed at better governance.

War jan27 UN Food Agency: Afghan Malnutrition Rates at Record High

War, censorship: jan27 Four People With Russian Flags Kicked Out of Australian Open by Police

Four people were kicked out of the [Australian Open](#) after displaying Russian flags — which have been [banned from Melbourne Park](#) — and threatening security guards, police and Tennis Australia said Thursday.

Markets, government, journal: jan27 lockheed reports massive share repurchases: 11 billion in repurchases and dividend payments. dividends fine; repurchases, not fine...

Lockheed may be a for-profit, publicly traded, company but those stock buybacks, dividends and appreciated stock value are largely underwritten by U.S. taxpayers. The company's [2021 annual report](#) acknowledged that, "...71% of our \$67.0 billion in net sales were from the U.S. Government."

War: Jan27IMF Mulling Fresh \$16 Billion Ukraine Aid Package; Revealed the same week Zelensky is touting a new 'anti-corruption' drive...

,

Vaccine, censorship, government: jan27 judge blocks cali covid misinformation law; The

court's ruling effectively halts the law while the legal challenge plays out.

In Hoeg v. Newsom, **five doctors alleged that the state law, AB 2098, is unconstitutional under the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution. A separate related lawsuit, Hoang v. Bonta, makes similar allegations.**

Both lawsuits sought a preliminary injunction to prevent California from enforcing the law.

Health, vaccine, censorship: jan27 Utah Plastic Surgeon Allegedly Destroyed COVID Vaccines, Gave Fake Shots To Children: image of legal complaint by u.s. government aleging doctor involved in elaborate conspiracy. Word conspiracy used several times.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF UTAH

<p>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,</p> <p>Plaintiff,</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>PLASTIC SURGERY INSTITUTE OF UTAH, INC.; MICHAEL KIRK MOORE JR.; KARI DEE BURGOYNE; KRISTIN JACKSON ANDERSEN; AND SANDRA FLORES,</p> <p>Defendants.</p> <p>Case: 2:23-cr-00010 Assigned To : Nielson, Howard C., Jr Assign. Date : 1/10/2023</p>	<p>INDICTMENT</p> <p>VIOLATIONS:</p> <p>Count 1: 18 U.S.C. § 371, Conspiracy to Defraud the United States</p> <p>Count 2: 18 U.S.C. §§ 371 and 641, Conspiracy to Convert, Sell, Convey, and Dispose of Government Property</p> <p>Count 3: 18 U.S.C. §§ 641 and 2, Conversion, Sale, Conveyance, and Disposal of Government Property and Aiding and Abetting</p>
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The Grand Jury Charges:

Introductory Allegations

At all times relevant to this Indictment:

1. Defendants herein and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury ran a scheme out of the Plastic Surgery Institute of Utah, Inc. to defraud the United States and the Centers for

Case 2:23-cr-00010-HCN Document 1 Filed 01/11/23 PageID.2 Page 2 of 19

Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), whereby they destroyed hundreds of doses of government-provided COVID-19 vaccines, and in exchange for either direct cash payments or required “donations” to a specified charitable organization, defendants distributed COVID-19 vaccination record cards to persons without administering a COVID-19 vaccine to them and administered saline shots to minor children to trick them into thinking they had received a vaccine.

“Flores and other employees would then provide the Fraudulent Vax Card Seekers with the completed COVID-19 [Vaccine](#) Record Cards without administering any COVID-19 vaccine to them,” the document reads.

The group also gave fake vaccines to children when requested by the minors’ parents.

“Dr. Moore, Burgoyne, and Flores also arranged, at times, to administer or have others administer saline shots to minor children at the request of their parents so that the minor children would think they were actually receiving a COVID-19 vaccine,” according to the document.

China, markets, sanctions: jan27 Global Smartphone Shipments Plunge Most On Record; zh, as usual, was telling us this fora long long

time....."IDC's report was published one week before Apple reveals quarterly earnings."

Fourth-quarter global smartphone shipments plunged 18.3% year over year to 300.3 million units.

Top 5 Companies, Worldwide Smartphone Shipments, Market Share, and Year-Over-Year Growth, Q4 2022 (Preliminary results, shipments in millions of units)					
Company	4Q22 Shipment Volumes*	4Q22 Market Share*	4Q21 Shipment Volumes	4Q21 Market Share	Year-Over-Year Change*
1. Apple	72.3	24.1%	85.0	23.1%	-14.9%
2. Samsung	58.2	19.4%	69.0	18.8%	-15.6%
3. Xiaomi	33.2	11.0%	45.0	12.2%	-26.3%
4. OPPO	25.3	8.4%	30.1	8.2%	-15.9%
5. vivo	22.9	7.6%	28.3	7.7%	-18.9%
Others	88.3	29.4%	110.2	30.0%	-19.8%
Total	300.3	100.0%	367.6	100.0%	-18.3%
Source: IDC Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker, January 25, 2023					

The decline was the largest on record for one quarter and contributed to an annual reduction of 11.3%. 1.21 billion smartphones were shipped for the year, the lowest yearly total since 2013.

Top 5 Companies, Worldwide Smartphone Shipments, Market Share, and Year-Over-Year Growth, CY2022 (Preliminary results, shipments in millions of units)					
Company	2022 Shipment Volumes*	2022 Market Share*	2021 Shipment Volumes	2021 Market Share	Year-Over-Year Change*
Samsung	260.9	21.6%	272.1	20.0%	-4.1%
Apple	226.4	18.8%	235.8	17.3%	-4.0%
Xiaomi	153.1	12.7%	191.0	14.0%	-19.8%
OPPO	103.3	8.6%	133.6	9.8%	-22.7%
vivo	99.0	8.2%	128.3	9.4%	-22.8%
Others	362.7	30.1%	399.1	29.3%	-9.1%
Total	1205.5	100.0%	1359.8	100.0%	-11.3%
Source: IDC Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker, January 25, 2023					

lobal Smartphone Shipments Forecasted To Drop Amid China Woes And Ukraine War

BY TYLER DURDEN

THURSDAY, JUN 02, 2022 - 12:35 PM

International Data Corporation's (IDC) [*Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker*](#) report downgraded global shipments of smartphones for the year from an expected 1.6% growth to a decline of 3.5%.

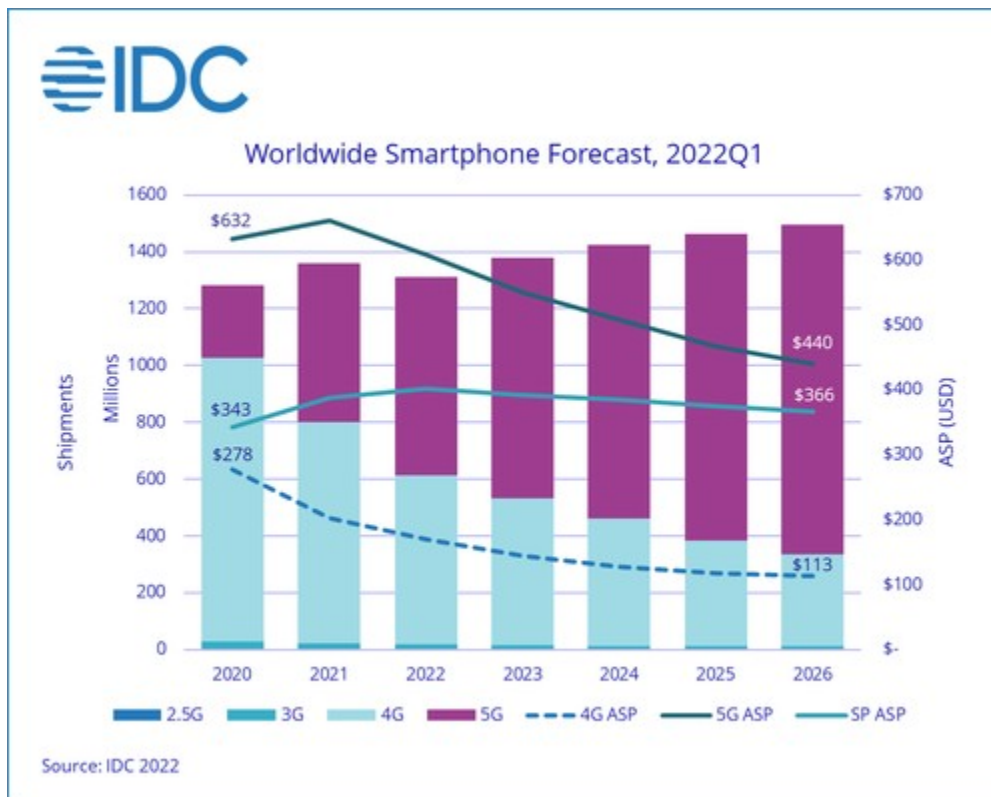
IDC's downshift in growth estimates comes as "the smartphone industry is facing increasing headwinds from many fronts – weakening demand, inflation, continued geopolitical tensions, and ongoing supply chain constraints," IDC research director Nabila Popal said in the report.

The most significant declines are expected in Central and Eastern Europe, with shipments down 22%, and China, the largest smartphone market, is forecasted to decline 11.5% or roughly 38 million units, which accounts for 80% of the global drop in shipment volume this year.

"The lockdowns hit global demand and supply simultaneously by reducing demand in the largest market globally and tightening the bottleneck to an already challenged supply chain," IDC research director Phil Solis said. He added: "The bigger problem has been the tight supply of components such as PMICs, display drivers, and discrete Wi-Fi chips."

Last week, sources familiar with Apple's supply chain told Bloomberg that [production would remain flat](#) after two months of China's zero COVID policy and resulting lockdowns disrupted suppliers ahead of series production later this [summer for the new iPhone](#).

The expected 3.5% drop in global smartphone shipments to 1.31 billion units is a noticeable decline versus last year and relatively flat growth since 2020. However, smartphone growth is expected to rebound by 5% in 2023 as 5G products are predicted to gain a larger market share.



China's slumping economy and conflict in Ukraine appear to be cooling worldwide smartphone demand this year.

Samsung Profits Plunge 69% As Global Chip Demand In 'Full-Fledged Ice Age'

BY TYLER DURDEN

FRIDAY, JAN 06, 2023 - 01:21 PM

The world's largest memory chipmaker recorded an operating profit decline of 69% for the three months that ended in December -- the worst drop in nearly a decade -- as the semiconductor supply glut worsens.

Preliminary numbers [released](#) by Samsung showed the company's operating profit declined to 4.3 trillion won (\$3.4 billion) last quarter, missing the average analyst estimate of 6.7 trillion won (\$5.3 billion). Sales fell to 70 trillion won (\$55 billion) in the quarter, down 8.6% over the same period a year ago. The company is expected to publish a full financial statement with net income and updates on divisional performance at the end of the month.

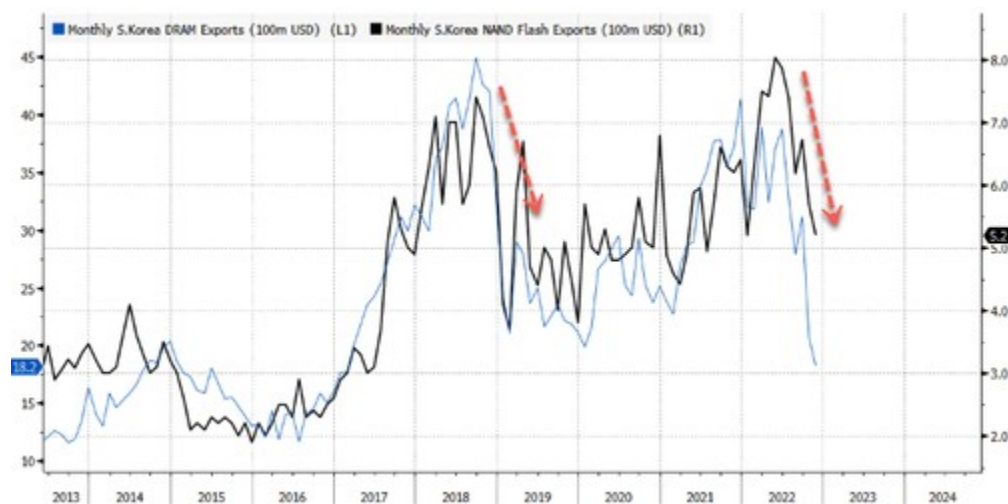
"Amid continued external uncertainties, including a potential global economic downturn, overall earnings decreased sharply quarter on quarter as we saw a significant drop in the memory business results due to lackluster demand and weaker sales of smartphones," the company said in a statement.

Readers have been well informed about South Korea's largest company grappling with dismal memory chip demand. We cited the Korea Economic Daily in September that warned about Samsung's troubles and how the "semiconductor industry has [entered a full-fledged ice age](#)."

"The decline in 4Q demand was greater than expected as customers adjusted inventories in their effort to further tighten finances," Samsung said in its statement, adding significant price declines in memory chips and slumping smartphone sales were due to "weak demand resulting from prolonged macro issues."

And those macroeconomic headwinds Samsung might be talking about could be the global economy sliding into recession. Earlier this week, International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva [warned](#) about global recession risks on CBS's 'Face the Nation.'

South Korea's exports of memory chips are in a down-cycle, indicating a worsening slump in tech demand critical to global economic growth.



Despite the bad news, though mostly known, shares of Samsung Electronics trading on Korean exchanges rose 1.4% Friday -- holding above the 100-day moving average.



Here's what Wall Street analysts had to say about Samsung (list courtesy of Bloomberg):

CLSA Securities Korea (Sanjeev Rana)

- "Shares are rising because really bad numbers from Samsung raise the likelihood of the company taking some action to control memory supply in the form of capex or production cut"
- "Samsung has been adamant that it has no plans to cut capex or supply but a fast deterioration in the demand and its deteriorating profitability means that the management might be forced to consider the unthinkable, i.e. memory production cuts"
- Other memory chip suppliers from Micron to Kioxia and SK Hynix have already announced reduction in either capex or output; if Samsung joins, it will become clear that the industry supply growth will tighten, leading to a better demand supply balance later this year

Midas International Asset Management (Shin Jin-Ho)

- In the past when earnings were bad, the shares began to rebound after Samsung's comments on output adjustment
- So investors are buying on the earnings shock, as expectations for output cut increase after earnings miss
- Bullish on Samsung stock price in the short term

Bloomberg Intelligence (Masahiro Wakasugi)

- Samsung's 1Q profit could stay low after its 4Q preliminary results came in 35% below consensus
- The NAND chip division may have posted a loss in 4Q due to severe price erosion while DRAM generated profit
- Earnings recovery might be slow in 2023 on declining chip prices despite demand recovery in 2Q or 3Q

Stats, energy, government: jan27 The Renewable Rejection Database shows that 79 local governments in the United States either restricted or banned solar power projects in 2022, up from 19 in 2021 and just two in 2020.
<https://robertbryce.com/renewable-rejection-database/>

Markets, sanctions, energy, war, spr: jan27 Freeport LNG Terminal Approved For Partial Restart: "federal regulators approved Freeport LNG's request for a partial restart of operations at the liquefied natural gas export terminal on the Texas coast. "

Freeport LNG Terminal Approved For Partial Restart

BY TYLER DURDEN

THURSDAY, JAN 26, 2023 - 06:10 PM

US natural gas futures erased some losses but still hovered sub \$3 per million British thermal units after federal regulators approved Freeport LNG's request for a partial restart of operations at the liquefied natural gas export terminal on the Texas coast.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved Freeport LNG's request to restart operations. Freeport was granted approval to begin the "cool down" of its Loop 1 transfer piping and restart the terminal's boil-off gas management compressors and other piping.

Here's what Houston-based energy firm [Criterion Research](#) told clients

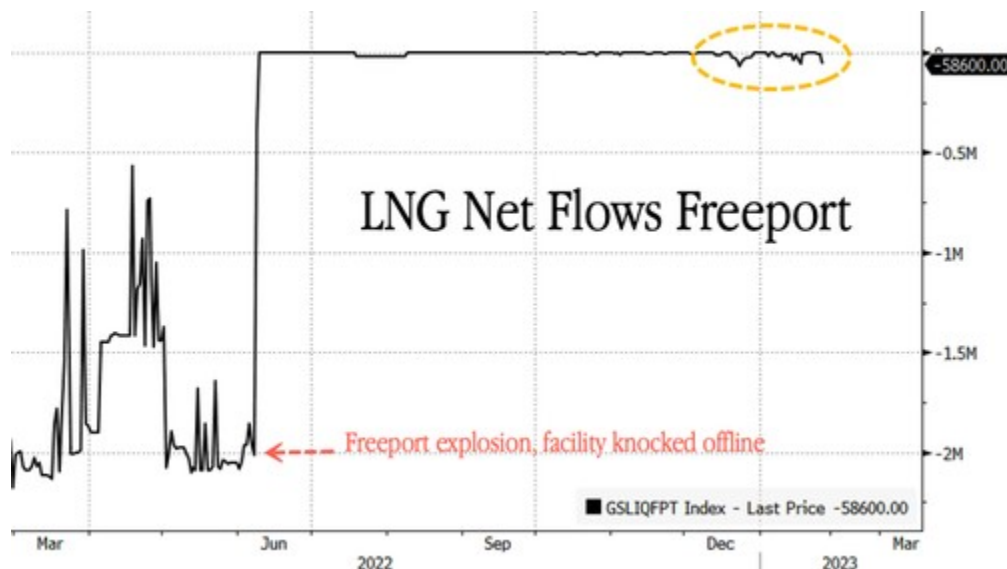
The FERC has formally granted Freeport LNG approval to "commence commissioning, including cooldown, of Loop 1 LNG transfer piping and commissioning and reinstate service of the boil off gas (BOG) management system." The letter was dated January 26, 2023 and the approval was based on an inspection conducted by the FERC and PHMSA onsite on January 25, 2023.

Moving forward, Freeport will need to request and receive approval for any further activity. This includes securing permission to "reinstate service for Loop 1 LNG circulation to enable ship loading to Dock 1 and to cooldown, recommission, and reinstate service of the liquefaction trains, including rundown piping to tanks."

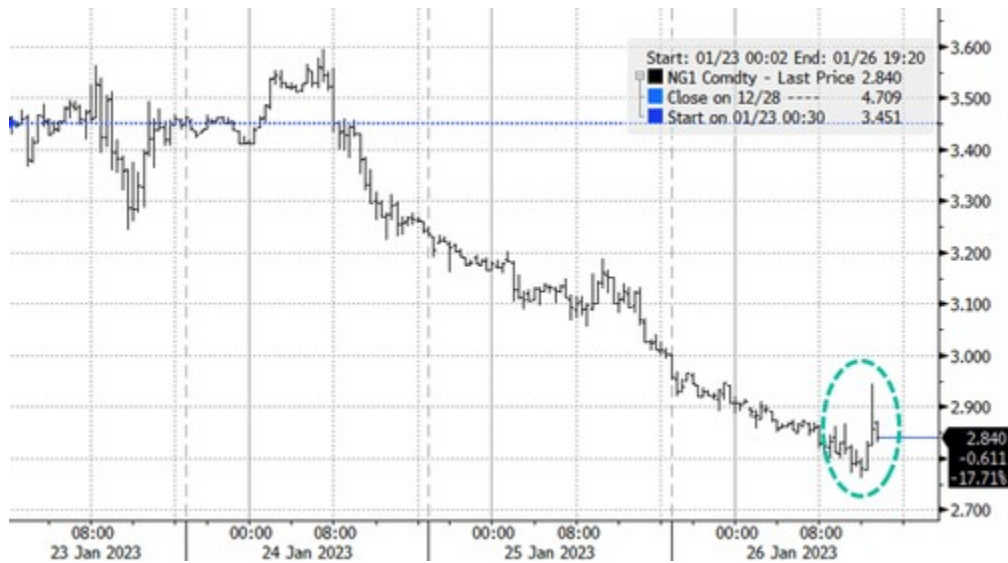
Based on Freeport's initial request this week, the Loop 1 and BOG work will now take 11 days, placing the completion of that process on Monday, February 6, 2023.

Recall earlier this week. Freeport released a statement that it "has [completed repairs](#) to the Export Facility on Quintana Island, Texas, performed safety reviews, revised various procedures, implemented new safety systems and performed necessary training in order to safely begin to resume initial operations at its Export Facility."

Freeport's LNG net flows show some signs of life after being halted last June when an explosion rocked the facility and brought it offline.



Even after the news, US NatGas futures are still deep in the red and sub \$3 -- mainly because of increased production, ample supply, and a mild winter.



The question remains if NatGas prices will finally find a floor if Freeport begins a partial restart -- considering the facility is one of the biggest export terminals in the US.

Journal, planet, war: jan26 like it's 9 degrees right now. I can't believe this..

google.com/search?q=halifax+temperature&rlz=1C1U6LkP_eNC_A0b4CA1042B0q=halifax+temperature&as=chrome:89b/f3b129.004/f1/bsourced=chrome&ie=U11-9

halifax temperature

About 15,300,000 results (0.40 seconds)

9 °C | °F Precipitation: 6% Humidity: 96% Wind: 31 km/h

Halifax, NS
 Thursday 6:00 p.m.
 Cloudy

Temperature Precipitation Wind

9 7 5 4 2 0 0 1

7 p.m. 10 p.m. 1 a.m. 4 a.m. 7 a.m. 10 a.m. 1 p.m. 4 p.m.

Thu Fri Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu

12° -1° 1° -5° 4° -1° 3° 2° 4° 0° 4° -6° -3° -4° -3° -11°

weather.com Feedback

https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/ns-19_metric_e
 Halifax, NS - 7 Day Forecast - Environment Canada

Temperature steady near zero. UV index 2 or low. Night. Clear. Wind up to 15 km/h. Low minus 6. Wind chill minus 4 in the evening and minus 11 overnight.

Hourly Forecast - Halifax Stanfield Intl Airport Alerts for Air Quality

People also ask

Is Halifax very cold?

Why is Halifax so cold?

How warm is Halifax in the summer?

How cold does it get in Halifax?

Type here to search

8°C Cloudy 6:10 PM 2023-01-26

Markets: Bed Bath & Beyond Craters After Confirming It Received Default Notice From JPMorgan Jan 26



**Journal, stats, markets, government, censorship:
"I'll be gone, you'll be gone": data base of 6,300
major corporate fines and settlements from the
early 1990s to 2015**

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1t0Tb5H7V_OkOuLM9kaiPmszXb3L5wS2g7Tc5dG7v9yM/edit#gid=0

In his new book *The Accidental Investment Banker*, Jonathan Knee introduces us to the phrase IBG YBG, which means "I'll be gone. You'll be gone." This might be whispered between investment bankers when an inconvenient fact comes to light during due diligence on a company they are about to float. "Don't sweat it" is the implication. Investors may be burned. The investment bank itself may be burned, but by then, the

bankers themselves will have cashed their bonuses and be long gone.

glynholtondotcom/blog/risk-management/ill-be-gone-youll-be-gone/

Source:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1t0Tb5H7V_OkOuLM9kaiPmszXb3L5wS2g7Tc5dG7v9yM/edit#gid=0

War: Ukraine Pivots To F-16 Fighter Jets Hours After Securing Tanks, zh breaks the escalation down perfectly

A mere hours after both Washington and Berlin confirmed they will be providing Western-made heavy battle tanks for Ukraine, reversing course on prior policy after intense inter-NATO debate, Ukraine said it is now pushing hard for 4th generation fighter jets.

That's according to an adviser to Ukrainian defense minister Oleksiy Reznikov, who just told [Reuters](#) that Kiev will step up efforts to lobby for newer western aircraft to replace its small, aging Soviet fleet. **"The next big hurdle will now be the fighter jets,"** the defense ministry official, Yuriy Sak, said.

"Every type of weapon we request, we needed yesterday," Sak added, expressing Ukrainian impatience as the Russians report fresh gains in the east and south, also after Ukrainian forces confirmed withdrawing completely from Soledar. "We will do everything possible to ensure Ukraine gets fourth-generation fighter jets as soon as possible."

F-16 file image.

Lockheed Martin

American F-16s have long been as the top of President Zelensky's defense "shopping list" - especially following his first appearance before Congress. In a March 16 virtual address to US lawmakers he urged Washington to send jets along with anti-air defenses [to help](#) **"close the sky"**.

But his public calls for 'closing the sky' grew a bit quieter in the months that followed that initial March speech given it proved unpopular with the American public - because in essence this was an appeal for the US to impose a 'no fly zone' - and of course this would be a *de facto* act of war.

But with advanced tanks now in the bag, [The Hill](#) admits that "Western fighter jets and longer-range artillery units, which would allow Ukraine to strike Russian forces deeper in occupied territory, will likely be the next debate for NATO."

Of course, those few public voices arguing *against* these iterative steps of pledging heavier and heavier weaponry have pointed out precisely that it only ensures a ladder of escalation leading to direct clash with Russia in a WW3 scenario, which some say [we are already in the midst of](#).

The Ukrainian side is of course fully aware that its strategy to keep pressing the West for bigger and more advanced weapons at all costs is working. The aforementioned defense ministry adviser explained to Reuters further:

*"They didn't want to give us heavy artillery, then they did. They didn't want to give us HIMARS systems, then they did. **They didn't want to give us tanks, now they're giving us tanks,**" Sak said.*

"If we get them, the advantages on the battlefield will be just immense," he added. "It's not just F-16s: fourth generation aircraft, this is what we want."

And then this amazing, brazen admission: **"Apart from nuclear weapons, there is nothing left that we will not get,"** Sak [added](#).

As for the Pentagon reaction to all this, spokesman John Kirby cited "constant discussions" with Ukrainian officials on what they need. "Can't blame the Ukrainians for wanting more and more systems," Kirby [said](#). **"It's not the first time they've talked about fighter jets,** but I don't have any announcements to make on that front."

Similar to when the tank issue was first introduced, likely it'll take a mere few months or less for the West's supposedly firm "no" to become "maybe..." to a supposedly reluctant, "OK, yes". **It's only a matter of time,** and yet few top officials are acknowledging the increasing speed at which they are running straight up the escalation ladder with Russia. As Glenn Greenwald aptly [observed](#) this week, **"The more escalation there is, the less debate."**

Tech: Congressman reads speech on House floor written by Chat GPT

Markets: The long-awaited winter energy crisis has finally hit...but it wasn't in Europe after all. On Monday, almost the entirety of Pakistan was left without power when a misguided energy saving strategy by the government backfired. Runaway inflation, a severely weakened currency, and rapidly emptying foreign exchange reserves have left Pakistan on the brink of economic collapse. The country of 230 million people is plagued by overdue energy payments, and was seeking to cut costs by lowering energy use when the plan went off the rails, leaving people across the country without power or water for more than 12 hours.

A significant energy shortage is one of the main drivers of the nation's current economic crisis. Pakistan's high level of dependence on imports of foreign fossil fuels to keep the lights on has left the country ["acutely vulnerable to to hikes in global oil and gas prices."](#) This has led to devastating consequences for the cash-strapped country as the [energy war between Europe and Russia](#) has caused widespread market volatility and driven energy costs up to painful levels.

According to the Asian Development Bank, Pakistan imports [“nearly a third](#) of its energy resources in the form of oil, coal, and liquefied natural gas (LNG).” Pakistan’s own Dawn Newspaper slammed the government this week for its [‘self-inflicted’ economic crisis](#) based on “unsustainable energy policies — price and availability — coupled with constant currency volatility,” which it says “have kept the country’s export potential capped.” Indeed, [experts say](#) that the nation has barely enough left in its coffers for one more month of crucial energy and fuel imports. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is currently discussing how to mitigate the crisis unfolding in Pakistan, starting with softening some conditions for a proposed \$6 billion bailout, which the government fears will only fuel inflation. It would come on the heels of another \$1.1 billion in IMF aid given to Islamabad in August. “Since then,” Associated Press reports, “discussions between the two parties have oscillated due to Pakistan’s reluctance to impose new tax measures.”

[Stats, russia:](#) **russian dissident site: Project Gulagu.Net**

[History:](#) **Pluto enters aquarius, Pluto’s last turn in Aquarius was 1778-1798**

Pluto in Aquarius is just a few months away, and with it comes a major shift in the world's power dynamics. On March 23, 2023, Pluto leaves Capricorn and enters Aquarius, marking the beginning of the end of one of the most grueling planetary cycles of the last decade (via Café Astrology). The last time Pluto passed through Aquarius was between 1778 and 1798, a revolutionary and transformative period of time that changed the way the world viewed power, money, technology, and society as a whole, according to Shape. With the end of Pluto in Capricorn and the dawning of the Age of Aquarius just on the horizon, astrologers agree that this transit will be just as revolutionary, if not more, than the last time these energies graced the night sky.

Read More: <https://www.glam.com/1059217/know-about-plutos-first-station-in-aquarius-in-centuries/>

Markets: 57 Percent Of Americans Cannot Afford A \$1,000 Emergency Expense

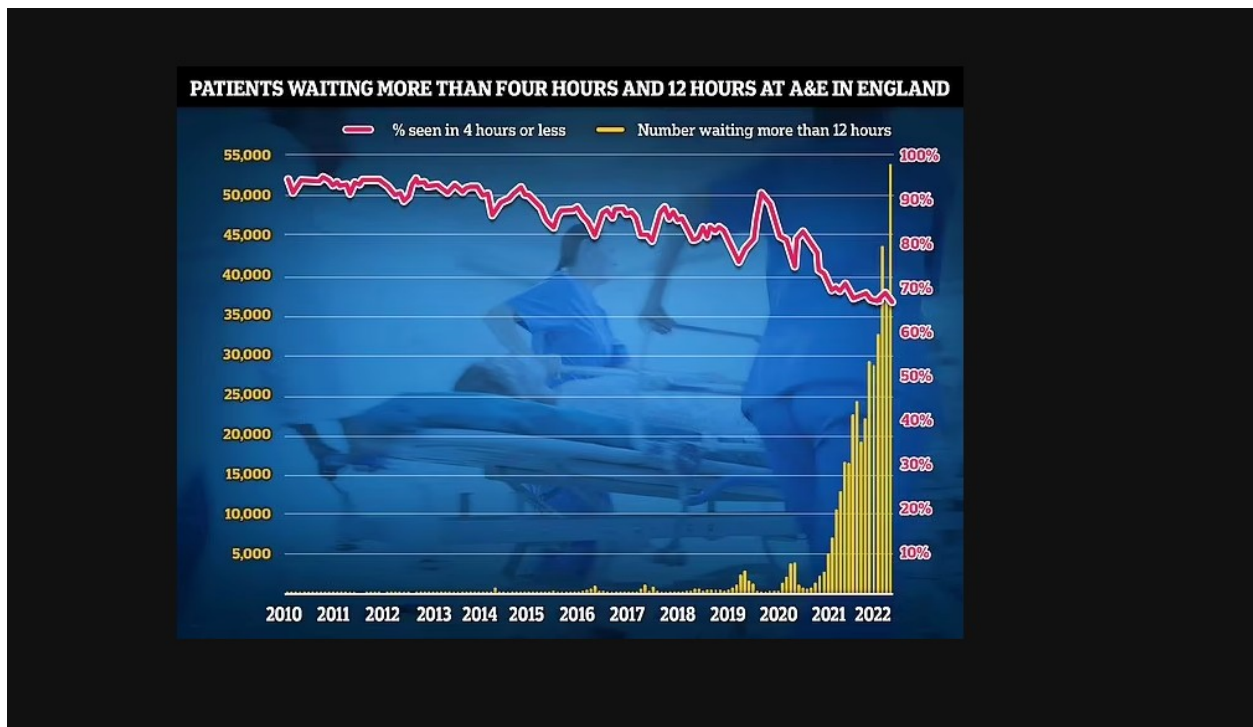
vaccine, government, stats: Massive spike in excess deaths sparks calls for an ‘urgent investigation’: NHS crisis is blamed for nearly 3,000 more Brits than usual dying each week

MPs have called for an urgent investigation into Britain's soaring death rates as thousands more people than usual are dying each week.

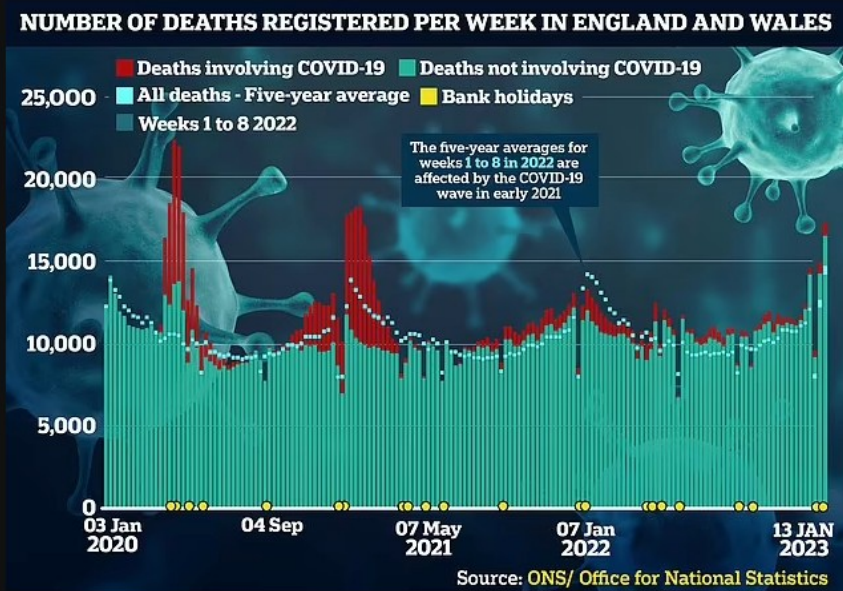
Some 17,381 deaths were registered in England and Wales in the seven days to January 13 – 2,837 above average for the time of year.

This is the highest number of excess deaths since 3,429 in the week to February 12, 2021, when the UK was experiencing its second wave of Covid-19 infections and vaccination had only just begun.

On that occasion, deaths involving [coronavirus](#) accounted for 37 per cent of all those registered, according to the Office for National Statistics.



NHS A&E data for December shows that a record 54,532 people seeking emergency care were forced to wait at least 12 hours (yellow bar). Meanwhile, just 65 per cent of A&E attendees were seen within four hours (red line) — the NHS target



But in the most recent week, Covid-19 accounted for just 5 per cent of the total – meaning other factors are likely to be driving the high level of mortality.

Stats, journal: more feeding into the hysteria to prime the masses for what's truly coming..

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying investmentwatchblog.com/james-okeefe-tonights-veritas-release-may-blow-up-the-internet/. The main content area features a tweet from James O'Keefe (@JamesOKeefe11) that reads: "Tonight's Veritas release may blow up the internet." The tweet is dated January 25, 2023, at 8:24 pm by IWB. Below the tweet, there are social media sharing icons and a "Read 1.6K replies" link. To the right of the tweet, there is a small image of Sandra Bullock and a caption: "[Photos] Sandra Bullock Son Is All Grown Up And He Might Look..." with a "READ MORE" link. Below the tweet, there is a section titled "SPONSORED FINANCIAL CONTENT" with four articles: "The Latest Market Thinking From The", "Oil: What next? MarketViews", "Robotics and Artificial Intelligence. Discover the", and "Trending news on Gold Markets". To the right of the tweet, there is a section titled "TRENDING:" with several articles: "Wake Up America! Apocalyptic Scenarios Are Unfolding All Around Us, But Most People Are Still Asleep", "It begins: Massive protest in London for the vaccine injured", "The CIA is Cleaning House in the Ukraine", "Tom MacDonald: 'The Truth About the Music Industry - I'm Exposing Them'", and "Stock Market Rigged - New York". At the bottom of the browser window, there is a Windows taskbar with the search bar and several icons.

Censorship: Twitter Facing Holocaust Denial and “Hate Speech” Lawsuit in Germany

The lawsuit was filed in Berlin regional court by HateAid, an organization fighting against “hate speech,” and the European Union of Jewish Students (EJUS).

Unlike in America, where we have the First Amendment, Holocaust denial and some forms of “hate speech” are against the law in Germany.

On their [website](#), HateAid argues that Twitter is failing to protect users by allowing antisemitic statements and insults against Jews to be made.

“Twitter promises to protect all its users,” HateAid says on their website. “But antisemitism is a normality on the platform. Insults against Jews, trivialisation and denial of the

shoah: antisemitic statements, images and videos can be found all over Twitter. The platform's lack of moderation leads to an unprecedented spread of antisemitic ideology."

markets: JAN262023

Chevron Surges After Unveiling \$75 Billion Buyback Plan "While War Is Raging"

Censorship: JAN262023 **Facebook Reinstates Trump After Two Years With "New Guardrails In Place"**

Markets: **House Committee Chair Calls For Probe Into '\$60 Billion' In Fake COVID-19 Unemployment Claims**

Markets: **The total market value of illicit human trafficking is estimated to be in excess of \$32 billion**

America holds the title of "second highest destination in the world for trafficked women" (Wiehl, 2010). Between 14,500 and 17,500 victims are trafficked into the USA each year. In most cases the average age of the prostitute or exploited victim is between 12 and 13 years old. A study from the University of Pennsylvania estimated that nearly 300,000 youth were at risk of being sexually exploited for commercial uses and many of them who are forced into performing sexual acts by their pimps are as young as 5 and 6 years of age. Sex traffickers tend to recruit children because they are not only more unsuspecting than adults, but there is also a high demand for young victims. Since 2003, according to FBI Director Robert Mueller, only 433 of the child victims have been rescued and only 308 hookers and pimps have been prosecuted for these crimes.

Tech: **Crushed Bug "Additive" Is Now Included In Pizza, Pasta, & Cereals Across The EU**

As of yesterday, a food additive made out of powdered crickets began appearing in foods from pizza, to pasta to cereals across the European Union.

Yes, really.

Defatted house crickets are on the menu for Europeans across the continent, without the vast majority of them knowing it is now in their food.

“This comes thanks to a European Commission ruling passed earlier this month,” reports [RT](#).

“As per the decision, which cited the scientific opinion of the European Food Safety Authority, the additive is safe to use in a whole range of products, including but not limited to cereal bars, biscuits, pizza, pasta-based products, and whey powder.”

But don't worry, because the crickets first have to be checked to make sure they “discard their bowel content” before being frozen.

Lovely stuff.

Critics suggested that once bugs become widely accepted as a food additive, their consumption will become normalized across the board.

“The Liberal World Order has decided that the little people must eat bugs to prevent the climate from fluctuating, in accordance with ruling class ideology,” writes [Dave Blount](#).

“Yet rather than mindlessly obey The Experts as most did with Covid policy, people have resisted. So our moonbat overlords are furtively sneaking insects into food.”

“This will allow them to reveal in the near future that we have already been eating bugs, so there is no reason to object to them shutting down farms and imposing a new diet.”

The European Union also recently approved the use of *Alphitobius diaperinus*, otherwise known as the lesser mealworm, for human consumption.

As we have exhaustively documented, globalist technocrats and climate change activists have consistently lobbied for people to start eating bugs to fight global warming, despite the practice being linked to [parasitic infections](#).

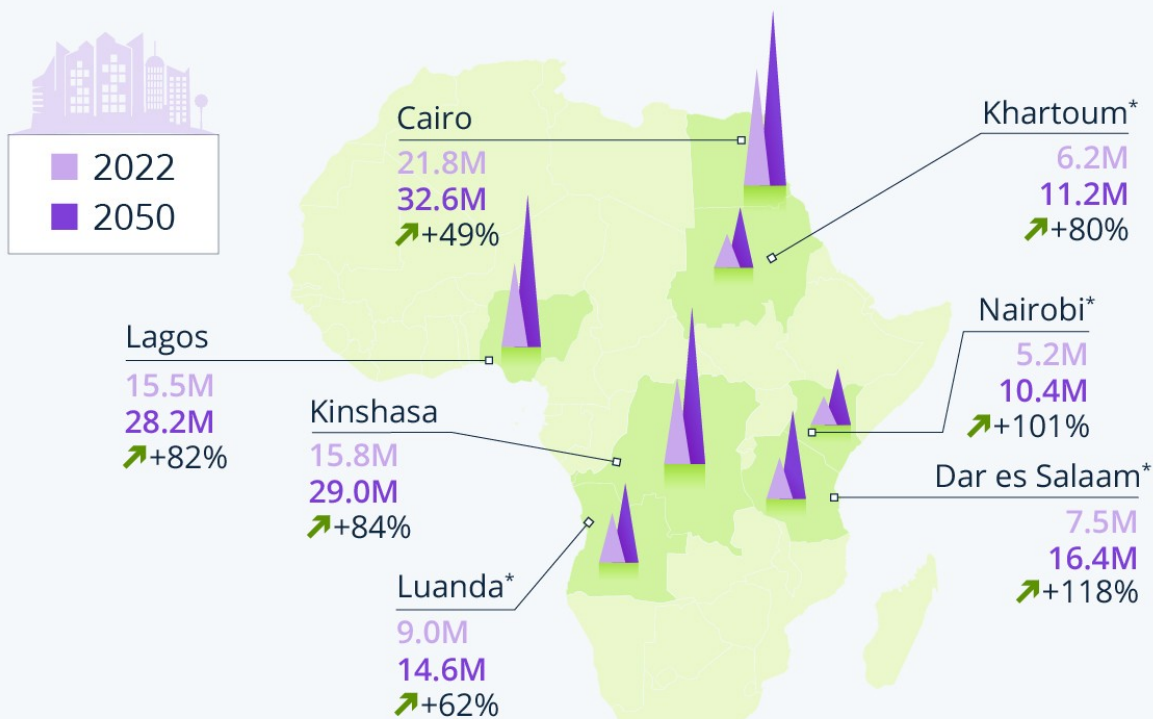
I somewhat doubt that elitist technocrats who recently visited Davos will be switching to the bug diet, no matter how much they browbeat us about man-made climate change.

Back in November, the [Washington Post](#) advised Americans that instead of a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, which now is unaffordable for a quarter of families, they should instead look to eating bugs.

While livestock farmers in the Netherlands are being climate change regulated out of existence, school children are being indoctrinated to eat bugs, while another German school has banned meat entirely.

Africa's Next Megacities

Population growth of the first 7 cities in Africa to reach the megacity mark of 10 million people by 2050



* New megacities

Source: 'Ecological Threat Report: 2022' by the Institute for Economics & Peace



War: Germany Still Years Away From Replacing Russian NatGas, Official Admits To "Unspoken Strategy To Pay Crazy Prices" Jan 26

Some European politicians and economists are breathing a sigh of relief after mild temperatures, increasing liquefied natural gas shipments, and above-average natural gas stockpiles have so far averted a worsening energy crisis this winter. Other politicians believe the energy crunch won't be over for many years.

"Gas storage is up and gas prices are down. Inflation is falling and uncertainty is declining," Deutsche Bank AG wrote in a note this week, adding, "We can afford to be more optimistic."

As of late, Europe's biggest economy, Germany, has seen an improvement in business outlook as recession fears recede, according to data from the Ifo Institute, a Munich-based economic researcher.

Ifo President Clemens Fuest told Bloomberg TV:

"The most important risk for the German economy was a gas-rationing scenario ... and that risk is off the table now."

There's a lot to be happy about in Europe: Dutch front-month NatGas, the continent's benchmark, slid as much as 5% to 55 euros a megawatt-hour today, the lowest level since late 2021. Prices have collapsed by more than 83% since peaking at 311 euros a megawatt-hour last August.

However, the optimism could be short-lived because Germany is years from entirely substituting Russian NatGas flows with LNG shipments.

Last week, Chancellor Olaf Scholz told [Bloomberg](#) that German learned a hard lesson in its addiction for cheap Russian NatGas. **He said the country is now rejiggering supply chains that will increase capacity for LNG imports at major ports.**

A new report via the country's Economy Ministry shows Germany will install 56 billion cubic meters of domestic LNG import capacity by 2026. By 2030, capacities will increase to 76.5 billion cubic meters or about 80% of total German NatGas consumption in 2021.

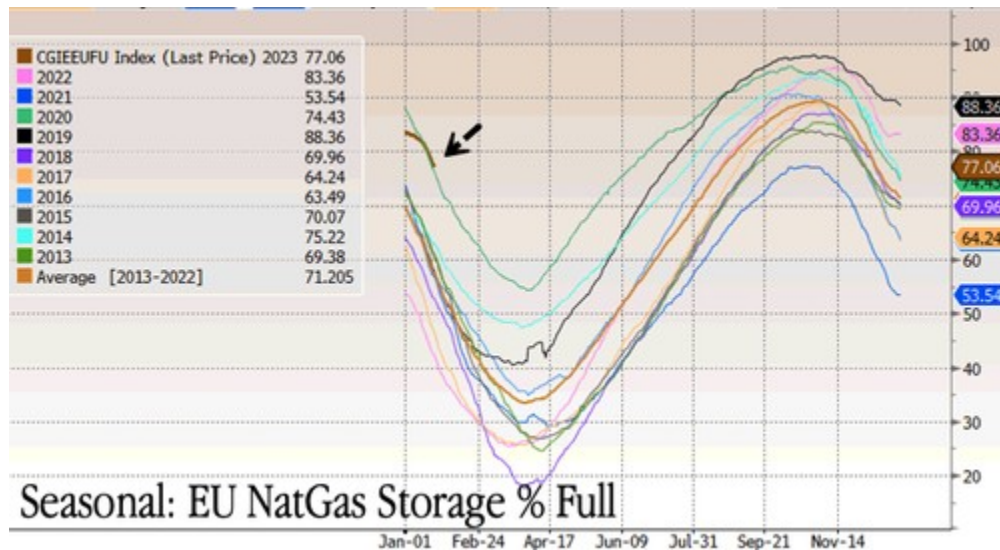
The ministry pointed out that even though current NatGas storage facilities are above normal levels, there are mounting risks later this year that storage could sink to dangerously low levels and result in shortages.

"The truth is, there won't be enough in the next three to four years of LNG production capacity in the world to meet the growing demand. So the unspoken strategy is that Germany will continue to pay crazy prices and other, less rich countries go empty-handed," Christian Leye, a Bundestag Left Party representative, told Bloomberg.

Germany has reduced its dependence on Russian NatGas by importing LNG from other EU countries and increasing NatGas pipeline flows from Norway and the Netherlands. Germany didn't have a choice after explosions rocked Nord Stream last year. An issue we see is that Germany's NatGas storage was filled last summer when Russian NatGas was still flowing -- not so much anymore.

Deutsche Bank expects EU NatGas prices to fluctuate between 50 and 100 euros a megawatt-hour this year. It's only a matter of time before the temporary relief evaporates and the energy crisis resurfaces.

Just inserted the images from the article separately, so in this case they are not presented in context, but just at the bottom of the article.



Markets: **Prices have collapsed by more than 83% since peaking at 311 euros a megawatt-hour last August.**

Stats, government, vaccine: executive at Pfizers R&D department caught by project veritas saying covid was man made, could create mutations by feeding the virus to monkeys, jan.26

"One of the things we [Pfizer] are exploring is like, **why don't we just mutate it [COVID] ourselves** so we could create -- **preemptively develop new vaccines**, right? So, we have to do that. If we're gonna do that though, there's a risk of like, as you could imagine -- no one wants to be having a pharma company mutating f**king viruses," said Walker, adding that he believes Pfizer scientists are going about it slowly "because you obviously don't want to advertise that you are figuring out future mutations."

tech: magic leap, a leader in AR, was suspected to have been building a competitor to Google Glass

A November 2014 analysis by [Gizmodo](#), based on job listings, trademark registrations and patent applications from Magic Leap, concluded that the company appeared to be building a competitor to the [Google Glass](#) and [Oculus Rift](#) that would "blend computer-generated graphics with the real world".^[14] It had also been compared to [Microsoft HoloLens](#).^[5]

Tech: 200 tech companies w/ layoffs: 59448 as of jan.25th, according to new layoff trackingwebsite, layoffs.fyi

Government, censorship, stats: Las Vegas Judge Commits Suicide After Facing Ethics Probe For Demanding An Investigation Into Alleged Sex Trafficking Ring

A Las Vegas judge and mother of three killed herself a year after leaving her position to avoid a complicated ethics probe that began over what she said was her attempt to save her daughter from prostitution.

Melanie Andress-Tobiasson, 53, who stepped down as a Justice of the Peace before a hearing regarding her ethics investigation, was reportedly found

dead by suicide Friday, [8NewsNow reported](#). The outlet did not provide details about how she died.

The judge charged that pimps were “targeting the daughters of judges and law enforcement” to recruit them into prostitution.

Andress-Tobiasson was being investigated by Nevada’s Judicial Discipline Commission for almost two years before she agreed to resign in 2021.

Her problems began when her daughter Sarah, then 16, started working at a clothing store that Andress-Tobiasson claimed was a front for criminal activities and tried to stop it, first by reporting the issue to the police, [the Daily Mail reported](#). She said the store, Top Knotch, was involved with prostitution and trying to recruit her daughter.

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She called out Las Vegas cops for ignoring information about the alleged sex trafficking at the store. She claimed that the store was an unlicensed, underage nightclub and added that she was “terrified” of Shane Valentine, who ran the store at the time.

When The Post reached her daughter, Sarah Tobiasson, now 23, on Saturday, she hung up.

Andress-Tobiasson said she had to go to the FBI with the information after being ignored by local police — which resulted in officers investigating her for allegedly breaching judicial rules by making an allegation to federal agents.

A complaint filed against Andress-Tobiasson alleged that she failed to comply with and uphold the law, and allowed family interests and relations to influence her conduct, the Daily Mail reported.

Andress-Tobiasson asked cops to look into Valentine but said they ignored her claims. Valentine was later linked to a shooting where a couple was found dead.

They did not officially link him to the killings of Sydney Land, 21, and Nehemiah “Neo” Kauffman, 20, until months later, according to the Daily Mail.

But Andress-Tobiasson contacted Land’s mother and “began to personally investigate the case” because she thought that Valentine was responsible, the complaint stated.

It added that she used “burner phones” to contact Land’s mother and sent texts to another woman she thought was involved in the murder.

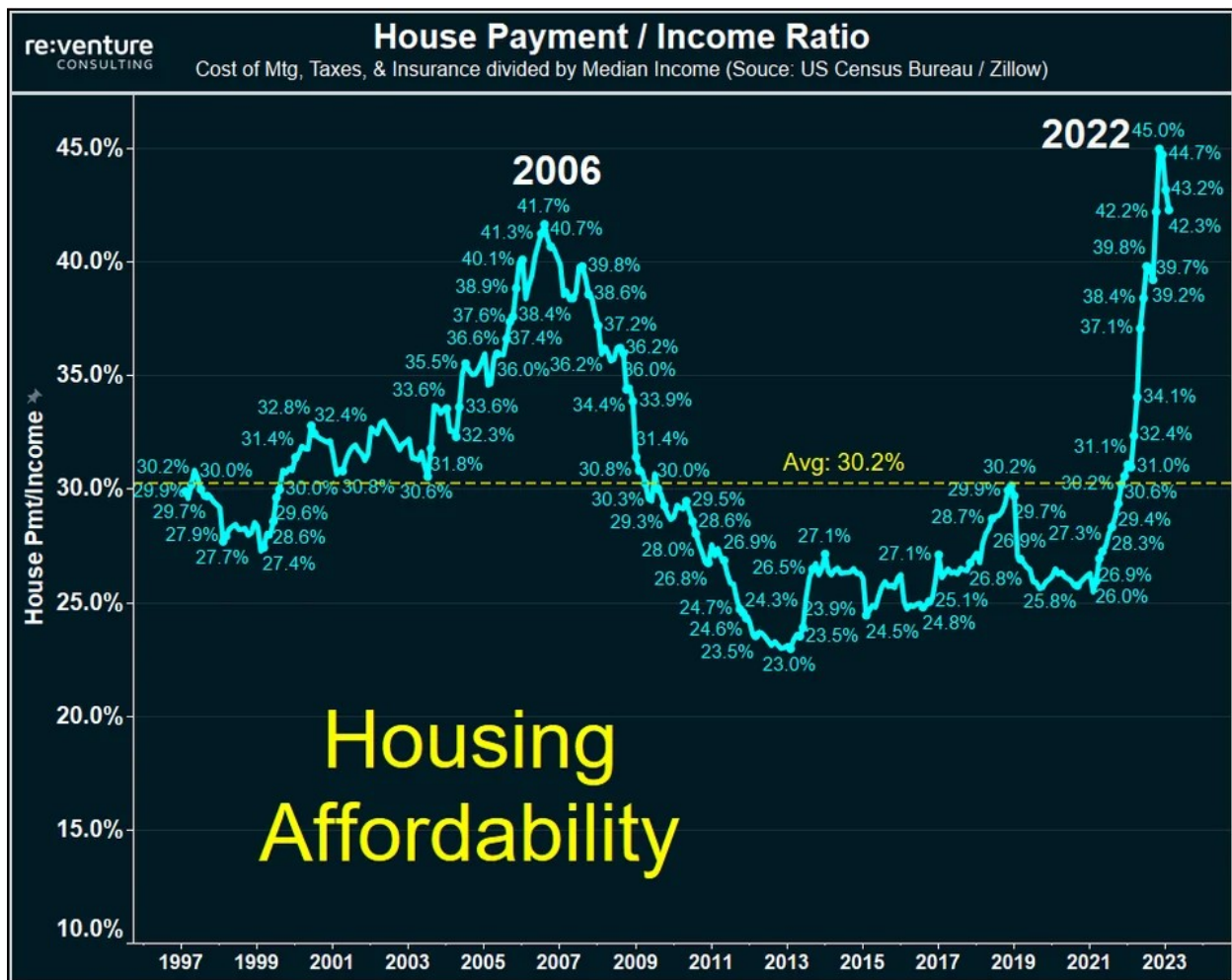
The commission alleged that Andress-Tobiasson stated publicly that she reached out to Valentine’s lawyer at the time and “told him to tell Valentine that if he called her daughter again, she would ‘take care of it herself,’” and that one time she “went to Shane Valentine’s house and kicked in the door.”

Detectives learned of Andress-Tobiasson’s activity, according to the charges, and launched an investigation into the judge, going as far as tracking her phone records.

They also alleged that she had links to a man called “Anthony Danna” who was a “known and documented organized crime figure.”

Andress-Tobiasson lived with her husband, Todd, in a \$2 million mansion with a pool at the time of her death.

**A look at house payments vs income ratio.
Housing market has never been this
unaffordable (in history)**



Tech, government: Google announced the largest round of layoffs in the company's 25-year history

A list of top-rated inquiries from employees, viewed by CNBC, contained pointed questions for executives.

"How were the layoffs decided? Some high performers were let go from our teams," one top-rated question read. "This negatively impacts the remaining Googlers who see someone with high recognition, positive reviews, promo but still getting laid off."

"What metrics were used to determine who was laid off?" another top-rated question read. "Was the decision based on their performance, scope of work, or both, or something else?"

Another asked: “How much runway are we hoping to gain with the layoffs?” and “Would you explain clearly what the layoff allows Google to do that Google could not have done without layoffs?”

Markets: US earnings are still at a record high, well above their historical trend...

twitter.com/AyeshaTariq/status/1617845537679749120?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Cwterm%5E1617848018681888770%7Cwgr%5E5b4b988e04c1864c143f449be9ccb4a411b69dd7%7Cwcon%5E2_sref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.L...

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Ayesha Tariq, CFA
@AyeshaTariq

US earnings are still at a record high, well above their historical trend.

Figure 2: S&P500 EPS vs trend

Source: IBES, NBER, Thomson Reuters, "trailing EPS"

7:23 AM · Jan 24, 2023 · 118.2K Views

148 Retweets · 16 Quote Tweets · 550 Likes

Sridhar Gupta @SridharGupta21 · Jan 24

Replying to @AyeshaTariq

Your charts are simple and clear!

1 · 7 · 2,149

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Type here to search

Windows taskbar: 5:52 PM 1/25/2023

Tech: OpenAI, the owner of ChatGPT, is the fastest tech company ever to hit a \$30B valuation.

Health: mRNA flu shot coming this year. Pfizer CEO: “we’ve also started experiments to combine the mRNA flu & Covid vax together.”

Jan.25th

Stats, censorship, government: Jamaican Securities firm loses World Champion Olympic Sprinters \$12 million in retirement saving. And this wasn’t just any sprinter, it was the man himself, Usain Bolt—you know, that guy who holds the record for the 100 meter dash. Yeah him. Even he can’t escape the rampant corruption in the tropical island of jamiaca, a country known for having one of the highest murder rates in the world.

thetreetdotcom/personalities/bank-reportedly-loses-12-million-of-usain-bolts-life-savings

censorship, tech: Whistleblower: Google Curates Data for AI

theepochtimesdotcom/google-curates-data-for-ai-whistleblower_4999956.html?utm_source=partner&utm_campaign=TheLibertyDaily

tech: jan.25th, CHATGPT CAN PASS U.S. MEDICAL LICENSING EXAM AND THE BAR, RECEIVED B GRADE ON WHARTON MBA PAPER

tech: hacking the brain:Nita Farahany led a session called “Ready for Brain Transparency?”

Farahany presented a hypothetical scenario in which an employer could spy on employees’ thoughts to determine their performance in the workplace, as well as to identify any potential illegal activity in which they might be engaged.

“We can pick up and decode faces that you’re seeing in your mind – single shapes, numbers, your PIN number to your bank account,” Farahany fantasized before her globalist audience – *watch below*:

“Artificial intelligence has enabled advances in decoding brain activity in ways we never before thought possible,” Farahany went on to state during the session. (Related: This is all part of WEF leader Klaus Schwab’s continued efforts to “[master the future](#)“.)

“What you think, what you feel: it’s all just data – data that in large patterns can be decoded using artificial intelligence,” Farahany added about the technology she and her tribe are developing.

Such technology is already out there in the form of things like the wearable Fitbit. In fact, Farahany called what is next on the agenda for human brain hacking a “Fitbit for your brain.”

“We’re not talking about implanted devices of the future; I’m talking about wearable devices that are like Fitbits for your brain,” she explained.

“These are headbands, hats that have sensors that can pick up your brainwave activity, ear buds, headphones, tiny tattoos that you can wear behind your ear – we can pick up emotional states – like are you happy or sad or angry.”

Farahany continued to revel during the sessions about “surveillance of the human brain,” which she admitted can be “used to exploit and bring to the surface our most secret self.”

Her statements echo those of fellow globalist Yuval Noah Harari, who has been saying for years at WEF annual

meetings that “we are no longer mysterious souls,” but are rather “hackable animals”

“To hack human beings, you need a lot of biological knowledge, a lot of computing power, and especially a lot of data,” Harari stated in the past.

“If you have enough data about me and enough computing power and biological knowledge, you can hack my body, my brain, my life. You can reach a point where you know me better than I know myself.”

tech: **Thanks to AI and the Internet of Bodies (IoB) ecosystem, Five years after historian Yuval Noah Harari told the WEF that humans were hackable and that organisms were algorithms, Harari’s insights have been fully realized.**

The most profound statement in over 150 years of biological research since Charles Darwin can be summarized in just three words, “organisms are algorithms.”

This is the biggest insight to come out of modern life sciences, according to historian [Yuval Harari](#) at the [World Economic Forum in Davos](#).

Will the future of humanity be even human, or is our generation one of the last to be called homo sapien?

How to hack a human 101

According to Harari there are two simultaneous revolutions taking place that have led scientists to the brink of hacking humans.

1. Advances in computer science and machine learning
2. Advances in biology and brain science

With the breakthroughs coming forward in these two revolutions occurring on this planet at the same time, we now have the tools at our disposal to hack humans.

So, what does it take to hack a human?

Again, according to Harari, there are only two necessary ingredients to hacking humanity:

1. A lot of computing power
2. Biometric data

With machine learning, this level of computing power has been achieved. Biometric sensors have launched us into age where we can monitor every aspect of biological life to the point that the computers more know about us than we do ourselves.

Data is the most important asset in the world

What do all of these processes have in common? Data. "Data is the most important asset in the world," said Harari.

In the past the most important assets used to be land and then later machines, but now it is data. But who owns this data? If it is your personal, biological data, do you really own it, or is it the property of corporations, governments, or the elite?

"Those who control the data, control the future of humanity and life itself," the historian postulated, adding, "If too much of the data becomes concentrated in too few hands, humanity will split, not into classes, it will split into different species."

Think about that. If humans can be hacked, and they certainly can be, then those who control their data are the hackers.

Machines know us better than we know ourselves

Right now, the big concern over privacy mostly relates to how companies are collecting our data, so they can sell us more junk we don't need. We all know that our governments are surveilling us constantly, but we just accept it without putting up much of a fight.

"I've got nothing to hide, so why should I care?" is the common argument.

Turns out there is plenty to be concerned about. To give an example from Harari, he said that machines know us better than we know ourselves. At age 21, he came out as gay after struggling with his sexuality all his life. But now the technology exists to build machines that can track eye movement, blood pressure, heart rate, and brain activity, so that an actual 'gaydar' can be used to find out where people lay on the gay/straight spectrum.

Emotional manipulation

It seems harmless at first, if not awkward, but what if you take the same data and give it to corporations or the ruling class?

They would be able to manipulate your emotions. Instead of a commercial displaying scantily-clad girls in bikinis, the machines would know your sexual orientation and thus show you ads of hunks squirting oil on their popping pecks.

Take this a step further, and hand over this information to governments and they will know everything that makes you tick and how to control you.

Referring back to the gaydar analogy, where will we be when governments can supposedly predict what decisions we make before we make them? Will there be such a thing as free will, or will the computers label us as criminals-in-the-future in some Minority Report-like nightmare?

Towards a digital dictatorship

In a democracy information and decision making is distributed across institutions and individuals. In a dictatorship information and decision making is concentrated among a select few, as there is no real dictatorship in the absolute sense, all dictators have their advisers and counselors, so they are more like oligarchies in disguise.

A digital dictatorship will be one where information and decision making is concentrated to just one entity, the machine. If this happens, where would democracy play in?

“AI and machine learning might swing the pendulum,” says Harari, towards making centralized data processing more efficient. If democracy can’t adapt, we become under the rule of the machines.

This will lead to a surveillance state, more so than it already is. If left unchecked and unregulated with the power of computing and biohacking, the elites will be able to re-engineer the future of life itself.

Bioengineering a new species of human

According to Harari, once you hack something, you can definitely re-engineer it. That is why he believes that within a century or two, “earth will be dominated by entities that are more different than us than we are different from neanderthals or from chimpanzees.”

The transhuman agenda is happening now. It’s being programmed into our subconsciousness through movies, art, and the media.

“Science is replacing evolution by natural selection with evolution by intelligent design. Not by God, but by our intelligent design and our clouds — these are the new driving forces of evolution,” said Harari.

We are entering an era of inorganic life, and if this technology is not regulated, a tiny elite can shape the lifeforms of the future. Those who have the money and the power to infuse their bodies with AI will become a new species, capable of feats we cannot even imagine at this time.

None of this would be possible without big data and how to process and make sense of it through machine learning.

Who should regulate data ownership?

The elite are not ready to be entrusted with the future of life. “They seem incapable of producing meaningful versions of the future,” Harari said.

So, what’s the solution? Who should regulate ownership of the data? Unfortunately, not even the good historian has an answer, but he left a clue.

Apart from calling upon scientists, philosophers, lawyers, Harari believes there is one group above the rest, more qualified and more conscious about the human condition than all the others — poets.

These music makers and the dreamers of dreams are humanity’s best hope. John F. Kennedy understood this best [when he remarked](#):

When power leads man towards arrogance, poetry reminds him of his limitations. When power narrows the areas of man’s concern, poetry reminds him of the richness and diversity of his existence. When power corrupts, poetry cleanses, for art establishes the basic human truths which must serve as the touchstones of our judgement. The artist, however faithful to his personal vision of reality, becomes the last champion of the individual mind and sensibility against an intrusive society and an officious state.

<https://sociable.co/technology/hack-human-algorithms-davos-wef/>

If you thought freedom of speech was worth preserving, next comes freedom of thought: perspective

Thanks to AI and the Internet of Bodies (IoB) ecosystem, decoding the human brain is already well underway, according to a World Economic Forum (WEF) presentation.

Five years after historian Yuval Noah Harari told the WEF that humans were hackable and that [organisms were algorithms](#), Harari’s insights have been fully realized.

Thursday's WEF Annual Meeting 2023 session on "[Ready for Brain Transparency](#)?" opened with a short video showing a dystopian scenario where employees' brainwaves were not only decoded to determine their performance in the workplace, but also to determine whether they participated in illegal activity.

While the scenario in the video below is fictional, the technological framework is already in place.

"We can pick up and decode faces that you're seeing in your mind — simple shapes, numbers, your PIN number to your bank account" — Nita Farahany, World Economic Forum, 2023

"Artificial intelligence has enabled advances in decoding brain activity in ways we never before thought possible" — Nita Farahany, World Economic Forum, 2023

The above video illustrates just one of the many dystopian scenarios that can occur when the human brain is no longer autonomous.

In her presentation at Davos on Thursday, Nita Farahany from Duke University explained that the technology to decode brainwaves already existed and was currently being rolled out in some use cases.

Nita Farahany

“What you think, what you feel — it’s all just data — data that in large patterns can be decoded using artificial intelligence” — Nita Farahany, World Economic Forum, 2023

“Artificial intelligence has enabled advances in decoding brain activity in ways we never before thought possible,” said Farahany.

“What you think, what you feel — it’s all just data — data that in large patterns can be decoded using artificial intelligence,” she added.

And the devices to decode the human brain don’t have to be as invasive as a brain implant.

The devices can be as non-invasive as a “Fitbit for your brain.”

“We’re not talking about implanted devices of the future; I’m talking about wearable devices that are like Fitbits for your brain” — Nita Farahany, World Economic Forum, 2023

“We can pick up emotional states — like are you happy or sad or angry” — Nita Farahany, World Economic Forum, 2023

“We’re not talking about implanted devices of the future; I’m talking about wearable devices that are like Fitbits for your brain,” said Farahany.

“These are headbands, hats that have sensors that can pick up your brainwave activity, ear buds, headphones, tiny tattoos that you can wear behind your ear — we can pick up emotional states — like are you happy or sad or angry.

“We can pick up and decode faces that you’re seeing in your mind — simple shapes, numbers, your PIN number to your bank account.”

“Surveillance of the human brain [...] has a dystopian possibility of being used to exploit and bring to the surface our most secret self” — Nita Farahany, World Economic Forum, 2023

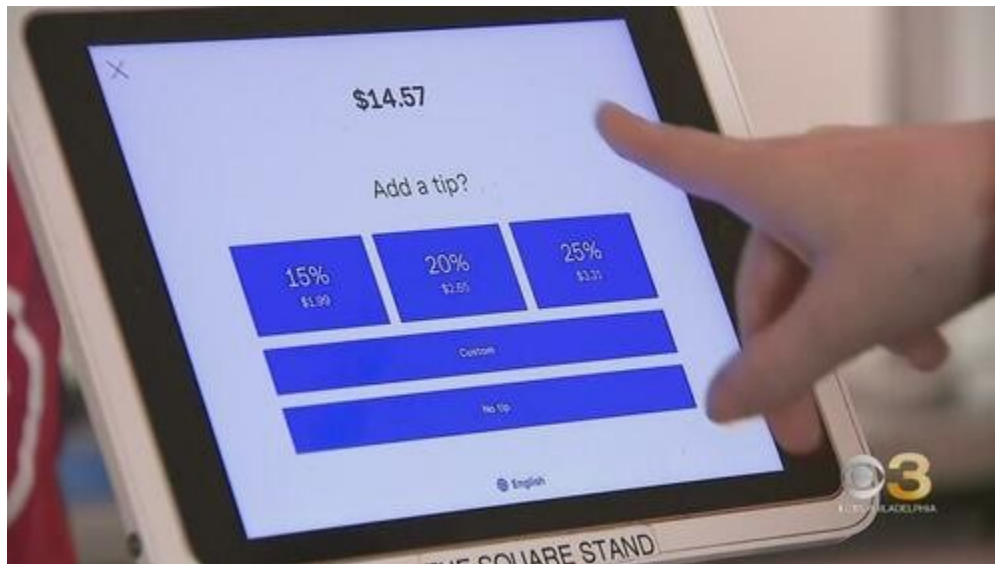
Farahany would go on to say that while decoding the human brain had its benefits, it could also be used for very nefarious purposes.

“Surveillance of the human brain can be powerful, helpful, useful, transform the workplace, and make our lives better,” she said, adding, ***“It also has a dystopian possibility of being used to exploit and bring to the surface our most secret self.”***

“It threatens fundamentally what our own self-identity is in some ways, and threatens to become a tool of oppression.”

<https://sociable.co/government-and-policy/hackable-humans-wef-decode-mind-pin-number-bank-account/>

markets: **'Tipflation': The culprit behind it is the boom in the use of digital kiosks after the pandemic.**



Media: Seattle Medical Examiner Running Out Of Space To Store Bodies Due To Fentanyl Overdoses: Official; "More than double the number of lives lost compared to just three years ago..."

War: German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock bluntly states in parliament that, "we are not fighting a war against each other, we are fighting a war against russia" jan.25th

The [Foreign Office](#) was established within the [North German Confederation](#) in 1870 and its head, first appointed in 1871, had the rank of Secretary of State. As the German constitution of 1871 installed the Chancellor as the sole [responsible](#) government minister and since the Chancellor generally also held the position of [Foreign Minister of Prussia](#), the Secretary of State fulfilled a more subject role as an assistant to the Chancellor, acting largely to draft correspondence rather than to actually direct the formation of foreign policy. This was especially true during the chancellorships of [Otto von Bismarck](#) (1871–1890) and [Bernhard von Bülow](#) (1900–1909), both of whom had

considerable prior experience with foreign affairs, while secretaries at other times wielded more influence over the foreign policy.

former foreign minister

Gustav Ernst Stresemann (German pronunciation: [ˈɡʊstaf ˈʃtʁeːzəˌman] (listen); 10 May 1878 – 3 October 1929) was a German statesman who served as [chancellor](#) in 1923 (for 102 days) and as [foreign minister](#) from 1923 to 1929, during the [Weimar Republic](#).

His most notable achievement was the reconciliation between Germany and France, for which he and French Prime Minister [Aristide Briand](#) received the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) in 1926. During a period of political instability and fragile, short-lived governments, he was the most influential cabinet member in most of the Weimar Republic's existence. During his political career, he represented three successive [liberal](#) parties; he was the dominant figure of the [German People's Party](#) during the Weimar Republic.

During [World War I](#), he gradually moved to the right, expressing his support of the [Hohenzollern monarchy](#) and Germany's expansionist goals. He believed that Germany would need to annex the [Low Countries](#), [Eastern Europe](#), parts of [north-east France](#), and the [French protectorate in Morocco](#) in order to economically compete with the United States in the future. He was a vocal proponent of [unrestricted submarine warfare](#).^[11]

The collapse of the German Empire after its defeat in World War I and the [German Revolution of 1918–1919](#) drove Stresemann into a mental and physical breakdown, which shocked him into totally abandoning his earlier militarism and annexationism.^[11] When the [Allied powers'](#) peace terms became known, including a crushing burden of paying [reparations for the war](#), [Constantin Fehrenbach](#) denounced them and claimed "the will to break the chains of slavery would be implanted" into a generation of Germans. Stresemann said of this speech: "He was inspired in that hour by God to say what was felt by the German people. His words, spoken under [Fichte](#)'s portrait, the final words of which merged into **Deutschland, Deutschland über alles**, made it an unforgettably solemn hour. There was in that sense a kind of uplifting grandeur. The impression left on all was tremendous".^[13]

The DVP was initially seen, along with the [German National People's Party](#), as part of the "national opposition" to the Weimar Republic, particularly for its grudging acceptance of democracy and its ambivalent attitude towards the [Freikorps](#) and the [Kapp Putsch](#) in 1920. Beginning in 1919, Stresemann emphasized that Germany should try to regain its [great-power status](#) by leveraging the continued global economic influence and creditworthiness of its [multinational corporations](#), pursuing peaceful [economic expansion](#), and establishing friendly [relations with the United States](#).^[11] By late 1920, Stresemann gradually moved to cooperation with the parties of the left and centre — possibly in reaction to political murders like that of [Walther Rathenau](#). However, he remained a monarchist at heart.

Weimar Republic[edit]

Chancellor 1923[edit]

On 13 August 1923, Stresemann was appointed chancellor and foreign minister of a grand coalition [government](#) in the so-called [year of crises](#) (1923). In social policy, a new system of [binding arbitration](#) was introduced in October 1923 in which an outside arbitrator had the final say in industrial disputes.^[14]

On the 26 September 1923, Stresemann announced the end to the passive resistance against the [Occupation of the Ruhr](#) by the French and Belgians, in tandem with an [Article 48](#) (of the [Weimar Constitution](#)) state of emergency proclamation by President [Friedrich Ebert](#) that lasted until February 1924.^{[15][16]} In October 1923, the Stresemann government used Article 48 to replace the illegally-elected SPD-Communist coalition government of [Saxony](#) on 29 October, and that of [Thuringia](#) on 6 November, by commissioners. By this time, Stresemann was convinced that accepting the republic and reaching an understanding with the Allies on the reparations issue was the only way for Germany to gain the breathing room it needed to rebuild its battered economy.^[16] He also wished to recover the [Allied-occupied Rhineland](#), as he wrote to [Wilhelm, the former German Crown Prince](#) on 23 July 1923: "The most important objective of German politics is the liberation of German territory from French and Belgian occupation. First, we must remove the strangler from our throat".^[17]

[Hyperinflation in the Weimar Republic](#) reached its peak in November 1923.^[18] Since Germany was no longer able to pay the striking workers, more and more money was printed, which finally led to hyperinflation. Stresemann introduced a new currency, the [Rentenmark](#), to end hyperinflation. He also persuaded the French to pull back from the Ruhr in return for a promise that reparations payments would resume. That was part of his larger strategy of "fulfillment." Although he, like nearly every other German politician, cursed the Treaty of Versailles as a [Diktat](#), he had come to believe that Germany would never win relief from its terms unless it made a good-faith effort to fulfill them. To his mind, this would convince the Allies that the reparations bill was truly beyond Germany's capacity. The effort paid off; the Allies began to take a look at reforming the reparations scheme.^[19]

In early November 1923, partly because of the reaction to the overthrowing of the SPD/KPD governments in Saxony and Thuringia, the Social Democrats withdrew from his [reshuffled government](#) and, after a motion of confidence, he was voted down on 23 November 1923, after which Stresemann and his cabinet resigned.

Foreign minister 1923-1929[\[edit\]](#)

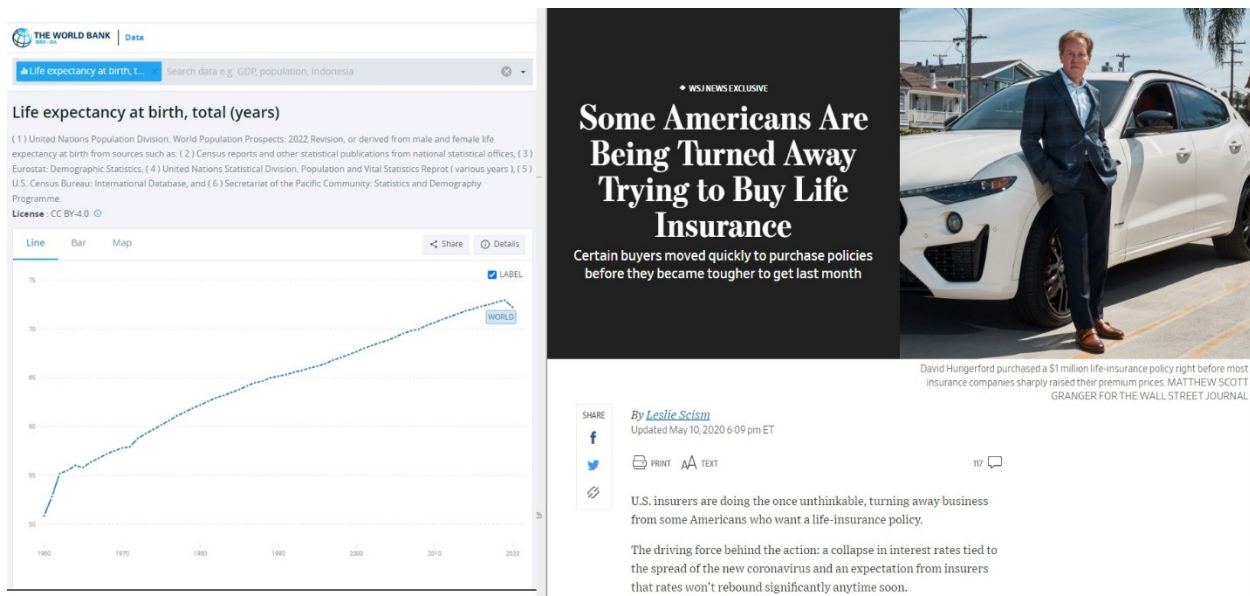
Stresemann remained as foreign minister in the government of his successor, [Wilhelm Marx](#) from the [Centre Party](#). He remained foreign minister for the rest of his life in eight successive governments ranging from the centre-right to the centre-left. As foreign minister, Stresemann had numerous achievements. His first notable achievement was the [Dawes Plan](#) of 1924, which reduced Germany's overall reparations commitment and reorganized the [Reichsbank](#). He appointed [Hjalmar Schacht](#) as the new President of the Reichsbank, who implemented the Dawes Plan and ended [Weimar hyperinflation](#) despite his reservations over Germany's growing foreign debt under Stresemann's economic policies.^[11] The successful negotiation of the Dawes Plan provided hope for Stresemann's foreign policy strategy emphasizing Germany's remaining economic [soft power](#), since the creator of the plan [Owen D. Young](#) was the chairman of [General Electric](#) and a major trading partner with the German firm [AEG](#).^[11]

After Sir [Austen Chamberlain](#) became British Foreign Secretary, Stresemann wanted a British guarantee to France and Belgium, as the Anglo-American guarantee had fallen due to the United States' refusal to ratify the Treaty of Versailles. Stresemann later wrote: "Chamberlain had never been our friend. His first act was to attempt to restore

the old Entente through a three-power alliance of England, France and Belgium, directed against Germany. German diplomacy faced a catastrophic situation".^[20]

Stresemann conceived the idea that Germany would guarantee her western borders and pledge never to invade Belgium and France again, along with a guarantee from Britain that they would come to Germany's aid if attacked by France. Germany was in no position at the time to attack, as Stresemann wrote to the Crown Prince: "The renunciation of a military conflict with France has only a theoretical significance, in so far as there is no possibility of a war with France".^[21] Stresemann negotiated the [Locarno Treaties](#) with Britain, France, Italy, and Belgium. On the third day of negotiations, Stresemann explained Germany's demands to the French Foreign Secretary, [Aristide Briand](#). As Stresemann recorded, Briand "almost fell off his sofa, when he heard my explanations". Stresemann said that Germany alone should not make sacrifices for peace; European countries should cede colonies to Germany; the disarmament control commission should leave Germany; the Anglo-French occupation of the Rhineland should be ended; and Britain and France should disarm as Germany had done.^[22] The Treaties were signed in October 1925 at Locarno. Germany officially recognized the post-World War I western border for the first time,^[23] was guaranteed peace with France, and was promised admission to the League of Nations and evacuation of the last Allied occupation troops from the Rhineland.

..... https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustav_Stresemann



For now, a wave of stopgap measures is hitting potential buyers even as some companies say more consumers are seeking out life insurance during the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to suspending sales of some popular products and raising prices, insurers are also scaling back policy sizes and reducing benefits.

“In 33 years, I have never seen more changes come more quickly to the life-insurance products we sell,” said Lawrence Rybka, chairman of ValMark Financial Group, an insurance brokerage in Akron, Ohio. “It is unprecedented how fast and widespread—it is across lots of carriers.”

His staff has had a hard time keeping up with insurers’ bulletins, and they have less time to redirect business to insurers still willing to issue certain types of large policies, he said. Historically, insurers would give a month or 60 days before a change became effective. Now, two weeks is common.

Some insurers are reacting directly to the new coronavirus.

Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co., among others, has temporarily halted life-insurance sales to people 70 and older and who are in poor health. Insurance-industry executives say that analysis shows older people with underlying medical problems are dying at much higher rates from Covid-19 than younger people.

In a memo to brokers, Penn Mutual said it expects “to revisit these and other changes as we gain better insight into the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.”

Among those prompted to move quickly amid the changes was David Hungerford, 72 years old, who bought a \$1 million policy from [Prudential Financial](#) Inc. [PRU -1.17%▲](#) last month.

Mr. Hungerford, an owner of a package-design company in southern California, said his broker advised him to act fast because of looming premium hikes. Calling life-insurance buyers “collateral damage” of ultralow interest rates, he said he hustled to wrap up a medical exam. “I was concerned about my overall bucket of assets in the stock market, and I wanted another bucket to depend on” for his wife’s financial protection, he said about his desire to purchase the policy.

Prudential, the nation's biggest life insurer by assets, told brokers in a March missive that its late-April rate increases of 8% to 12% on the type of policy bought by Mr. Hungerford, and other actions, "put us in a much better position to withstand the low interest-rate environment."

The insurer also temporarily suspended sales of 30-year "term-life" policies, an offering popular with young families, a spokeswoman confirmed. Such policies provide a basic death benefit during the years in which they rear their children. Prudential also reduced the amount of interest it is crediting to certain combination savings-and-death-benefit "universal life" policies.

Typically, life insurers hold about 70% of their general investment account in long-term bonds. In general, the yields on these holdings, many of them corporate securities, follow the 10-year U.S. Treasury. Its annual yield has been mostly declining since the 1980s, when it peaked at nearly 16%.

The yield dove after the 2008-09 financial crisis and was as low as 1.366% in 2016 before rebounding to about 3% in 2018. In March, it plummeted again as [coronavirus sparked a rush to safer assets](#) and investors feared interest-rate cuts from the Federal Reserve.

The yield on Friday: 0.679%.

Corporate-bond yields have held up better than the 10-year of late, but the overall trend has been tough on life insurers. Life insurers' net portfolio yield averaged 4.4% last year, down from 9.9% in the mid-1980s, according to ratings firm A.M. Best Co.

'It is difficult for consumers to have a lot of empathy for the life-insurance companies, but I can imagine they're really getting squeezed' by low rates, says Mr. Hungerford.

PHOTO: MATTHEW SCOTT GRANGER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Some insurers now are turning away business they consider the riskiest. [American International Group](#) Inc., Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co., Pacific Life Insurance Co. and [Principal Financial Group](#) Inc. are among big insurers that have limited the size of so-called guaranteed universal-life policies, which are highly sensitive to low interest rates.

The guarantee is a promise that the annual premium bill won't ever increase during the owner's lifetime. That means the insurer is on the hook

for any shortage of interest income over the years. Consumers bear the risk of premium hikes in other types of universal life to make up for such shortfalls.

A Nationwide spokesman said the insurer's pricing and product adjustments were motivated by "the extremely low interest rates and market volatility that drives up the cost of our hedging instruments, and [the] evolving landscape related to Covid-19."

Mark Chandik, president of FDP Wealth Management in Irvine, Calif., said many carriers held off raising prices and retooling offerings immediately after 2008-09 on a belief that rates would soon edge up. They gradually made changes when low rates persisted for years.

In this crisis, "they see no end in sight and they are all rushing to react to that," he said.

Over the past decade, life insurers offset some earnings pressure by deploying money into higher-yielding, triple-B debt, but potential downgrades in the worsened economy may make some insurers pause, said Tracy Dolin-Benguigui, a senior director for North American Insurance Ratings at S&P Global Ratings.

Certain insurance products that pay interest to consumers will experience a meaningful decline in sales, she forecasts. "It becomes extremely hard to provide a decent multiyear guarantee when you are facing the prospect of zero or even negative rates," she said.

In another example of how low interest rates are being passed on to consumers, payouts on "income annuities," also known as "immediate annuities," have dropped 24% since 2005, industry figures show. A 70-year-old man investing \$100,000 into one of these contracts for lifetime payments would get \$556 a month today, down from \$730 a month in 2005.

Some industry executives are hopeful one positive outcome of the Covid-19 turmoil is a greater appreciation for life insurance.

"The superlow interest rates today are certainly not good for Americans looking to save nor broadly for the life-insurance industry, but the value of protection products with guarantees will increase in this unpredictable environment," said Theodore Mathas, chairman-elect of trade group American Council of Life Insurers and chief executive of New York Life Insurance Co.

Some insurers say they already are enjoying sales boosts. The 164-year-old Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co. said April was one of its five best months ever as measured by number of new clients buying

various types of insurance, up 33% from the year-earlier period. Haven Life, an online unit of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co., reported a 42% jump in term-life sales in March.

Sales at some companies with product changes have been lifted by buyers trying to get ahead of the deadlines.

Alan Boudreau, a 51-year-old owner of an infrastructure pipe-laying business in southern California, said he was “a little leery” about committing in March to a multimillion-dollar Prudential policy, with Covid-19’s economic damage unfolding.

“I was dragging my feet,” he said. But with changes ahead, “we decided it was smart to move forward now rather than to wait for down the road.”

Write to Leslie Scism at leslie.scism@wsj.com

Corrections & Amplifications

Theodore Mathas is chairman-elect of the American Council of Life Insurers. An earlier version of this article incorrectly named the trade group as the American Council of Life Insurance. (Corrected on May 10)

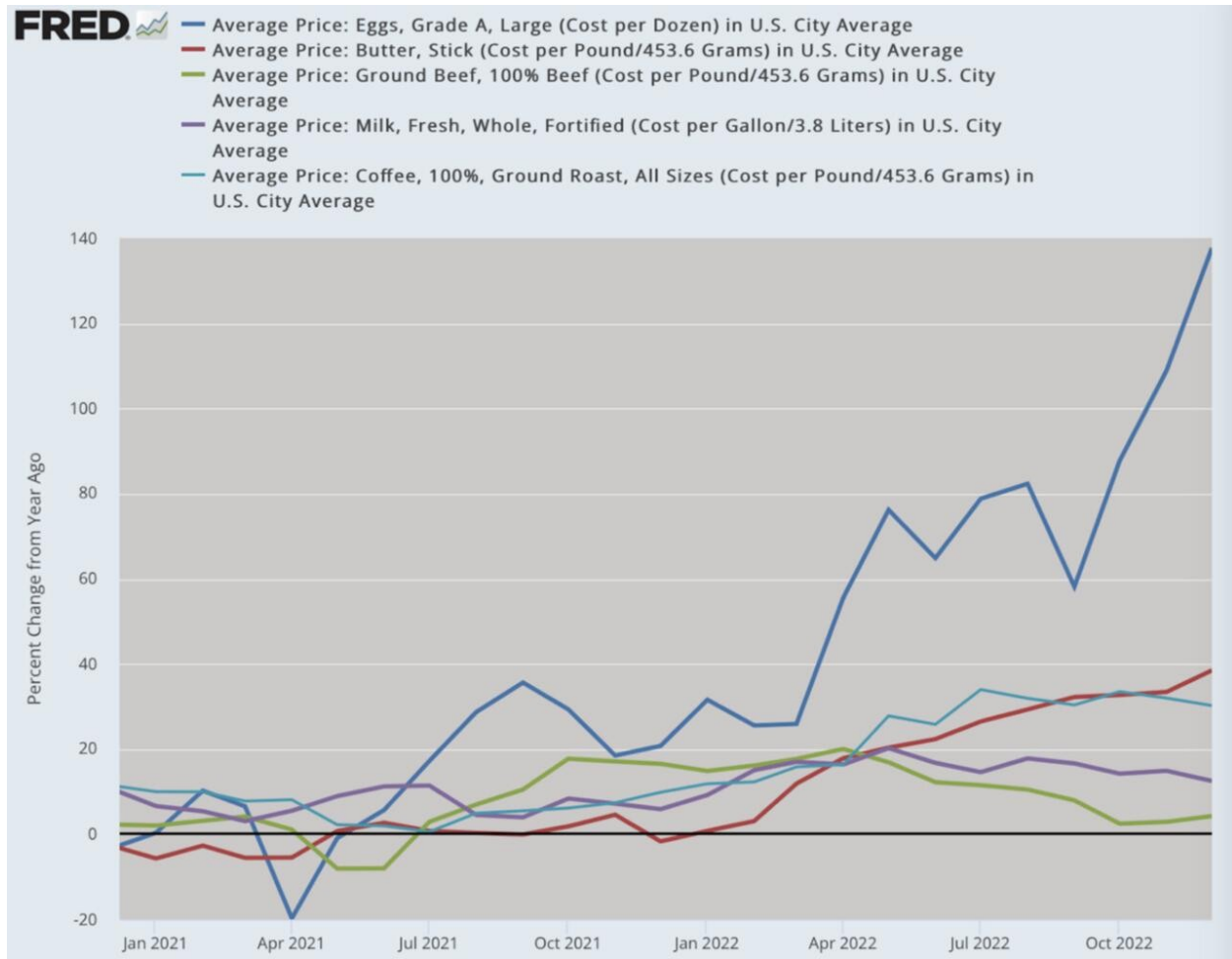
Markets: The reality you see on the shelves of your local store. The grocery prices tell the truth that you are being pillaged.

At first, there was just a shortage because grocery chains resisted price increases. Once they came back to the shelves, the cost dramatically rose. You are going to pay more for the worst eggs than the best egg cost only one year ago. Unless you know someone with chickens or have them yourself, you are stuck with thin shells and light-yellow yokes forever, while paying through the nose for them.

The bottom line is undeniable: ***in a mere two years, many of the things you loved, healthy food for your families—I’m not talking about the all-carb diet they want us to adopt—has now doubled in price.***

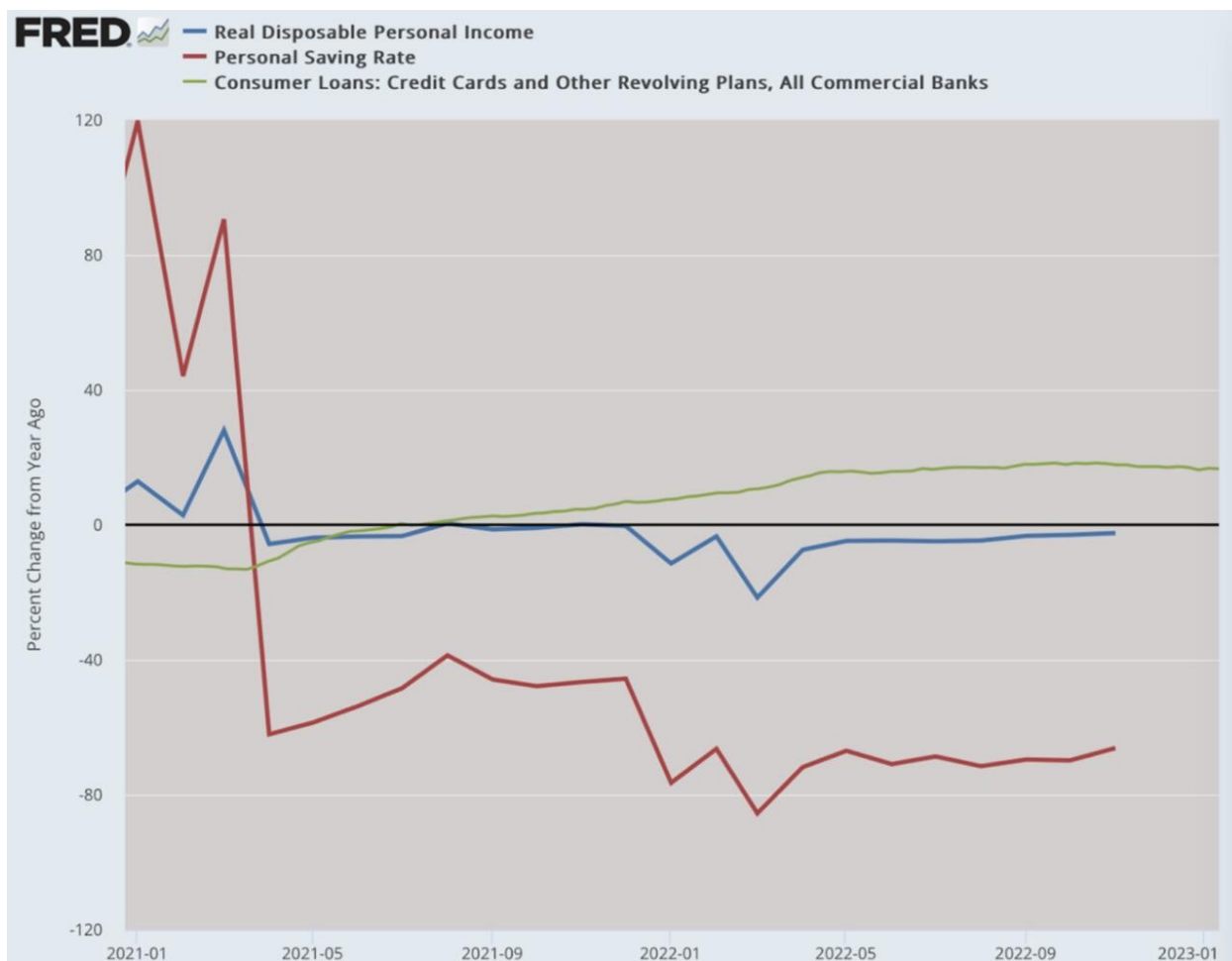
Some is up 50 percent and some is up 150 percent. This damage is absolutely not captured in the CPI, which has huge drawbacks by being calculated on an annual basis and for being a weighted index number that fails to capture the reality on the ground.

The reality you see on the shelves of your local store. The grocery prices tell the truth that you are being pillaged.



The pillaging is not limited to this problem however. And by the way, this is NOT going to improve. It would take a dramatic deflation to restore our [living standards](#). The Fed will never permit that. At best, their intention is to take down the [inflation](#) rate to 2 percent per annum. It now stands at about 6 percent, maybe. So even if it happens to fall to zero, all prevailing prices will stick. That means that you have been robbed.

The fundamentals of household finance are even worse. Credit card balances are way up. Savings is way down. And real income (which is adjusted for inflation) has been falling now for 21 months straight. Truly, it's panic time but people are so beaten down and exhausted that they are not panicking. Most people have acquiesced in exhaustion of the shock and awe to which they have been subjected.



(Data: Federal Reserve Economic Data [FRED], St. Louis Fed; Chart: Jeffrey A. Tucker)

These charts portend terrible things for our future. It truly means the end of prosperity. In fact, middle-class people barely remember what that was like even though we experienced it as recently as 2019. We didn't have to choose between eating good food and heating our homes, paying our cell phone bill and going on vacation, drinking good wine and joining a gym. We could do all of those things.

No more. Our living standards have been taken down a peg or several. Of course it doesn't affect the very wealthy that gathered this week in Davos for the World Economic Forum. They have all the resources they need and can continue to live as always. It's the rest of us who are being ground down into the dirt.

Note too the smaller packages of everything, with producers shaving off ounces every few weeks. Try to buy the big packages like three years ago and you are

likely out of luck. My favorite Turkish coffee is the same price but half the size. Did humanity suddenly desire smaller quantities of things? No, this is just a way to disguise price increases without letting the consumer know.

The other day I bought movie tickets but the bottom-line price was higher than the units. That's because the software added a \$5 "convenience fee." So great to know that now I have to pay an extra fee for delivery of an electronic good.

Remember when Uber and Lyft were cheap and even a good alternative to owning a car? Those days are long over. Now it costs \$40 just to get across town in D.C. And New York City, forget it. **The prices are astronomical while the subways are more dangerous than ever. Might as well not go.**

This is what is happening to us.

Now, to the critical question. How was all this accomplished, this massive increase in taxation by surreptitious means? Please understand: this was accomplished not by Putin or greedy corporations but by the Federal Reserve. They have the legal power to counterfeit. They do it by buying government debt with money that had not previously existed. This new money makes it way through the economy, watering down the value of existing money.

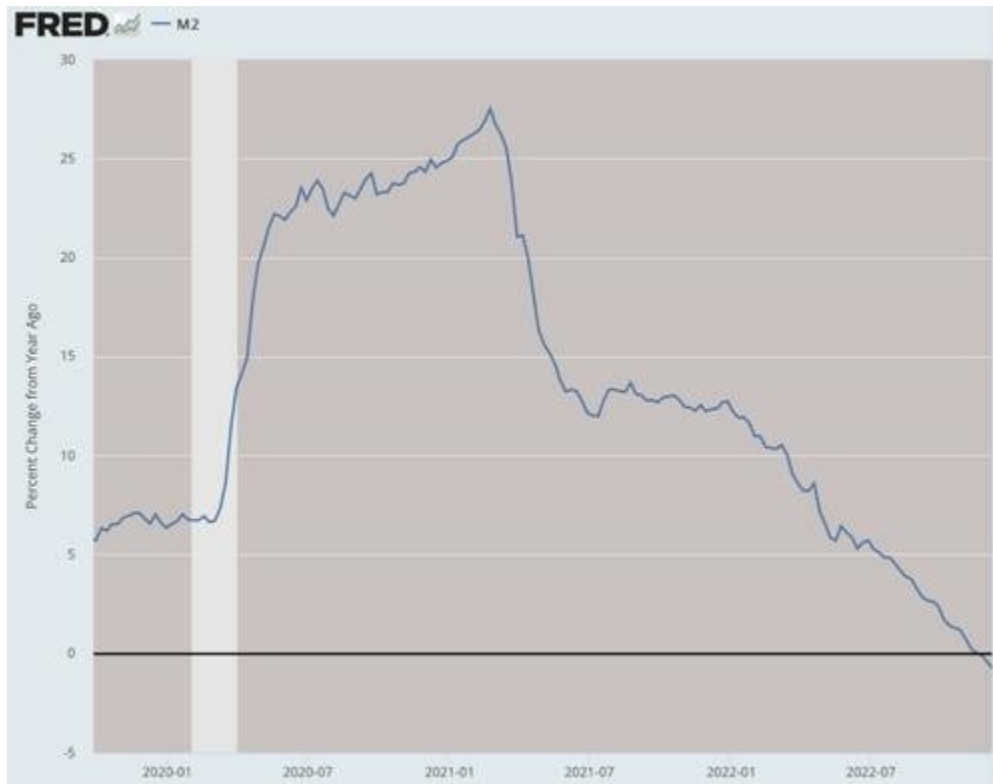
It's like this. Let's say you are holding a kids' birthday party and have only one can of frozen lemonade. But it turns out that 50 kids show up. You do what is possible to stretch the lemonade but each serving gets weaker. At some point it is just water. The kids start to notice. You have to explain that you bumped into the physical limits. The lemonade has become ever less valuable.

It's the same with the Fed. It does not matter that the dollar can buy more foreign currencies than ever. That has nothing to do with anything. What matters is not how much foreign currency it can buy but how many goods and services it can buy. The reason it buys far less traces to the outrageous monetary expansions of 2020 and 2021. That's the whole reason. At one point, monetary expansion was running 26 percent per year!

They robbed you to fund their outrageous lockdown experiment and put as many businesses and people on the payroll as possible. They might as well have dropped money from helicopters. Now we are paying the price for this monetary malfeasance.

And now?

For the first time ever, M2 is actually falling. How do you think that is going to work out? The mismanagement of our nation's money stock is breathtaking.



(Data: Federal Reserve Economic Data [FRED], St. Louis Fed; Chart: Jeffrey A. Tucker)

And did you see the idea of a \$1 trillion coin floating around again? This has to be the biggest monetary hoax in history. You can't just mint a round coin, out of any material, even platinum, and cause new wealth to come into existence. The idea keeps popping up but nothing comes of it simply because the alchemy is too obvious even for the power elite to pull off.

Our rulers in D.C. have got themselves into a real fix. The people are furious about what is happening and everyone wants to know why. There is a growing populist movement out there that simply will not go along. We aren't giving up our gas stoves. We aren't going to eat bugs. And we aren't going to give up our birthright to freedom just because a bunch of partying clowns in Davos tell us we have to.

We really do face a choice right now. If we do not act and do not choose wisely, **we face a future of growing impoverishment, ill-health, and deprecated living standards. We are not doing this to ourselves.** They are doing it to us, and they will continue on this path so long as they can get away with it.

Markets: Inflation Is Still Here Despite Hype Over Broad Money's Collapse

BY TYLER DURDEN

WEDNESDAY, JAN 25, 2023 - 10:39 AM

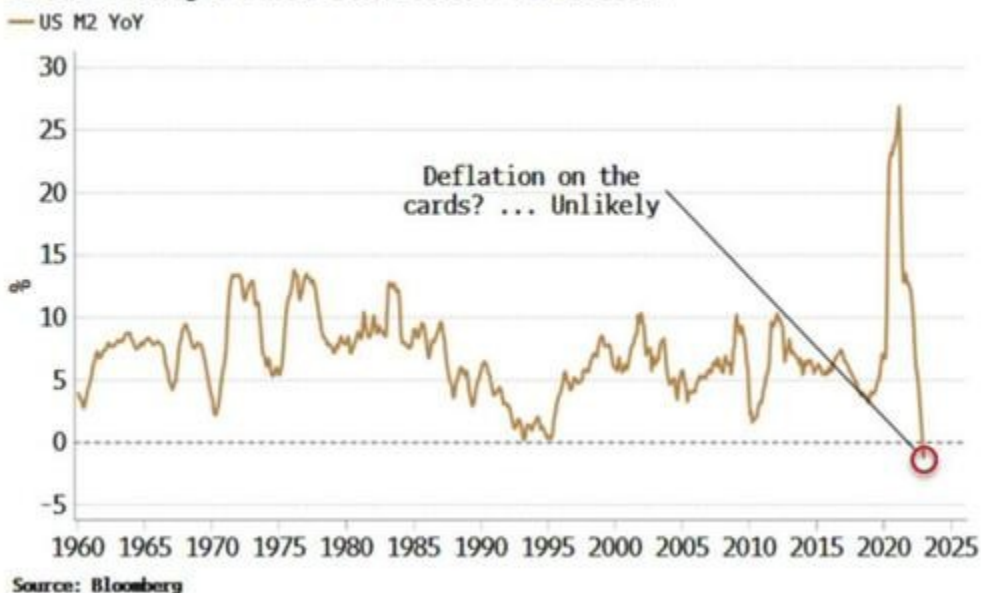
Authored by Simon White, Bloomberg macro strategist,

The first ever contraction in broad money should not be taken as a sign deflation is around the corner. **On the contrary, a closer look broad money's components shows inflationary forces are alive and well.**

Underweights in real assets, low long-term yields and inverted yield curves show that the market continues to underestimate the long-term impact from persistent and entrenched inflation.

Broad money, or M2, just posted its first year-on-year decline in its 60-year history. But M2, and its narrow-money counterpart M1, are misunderstood in their impact on the economy.

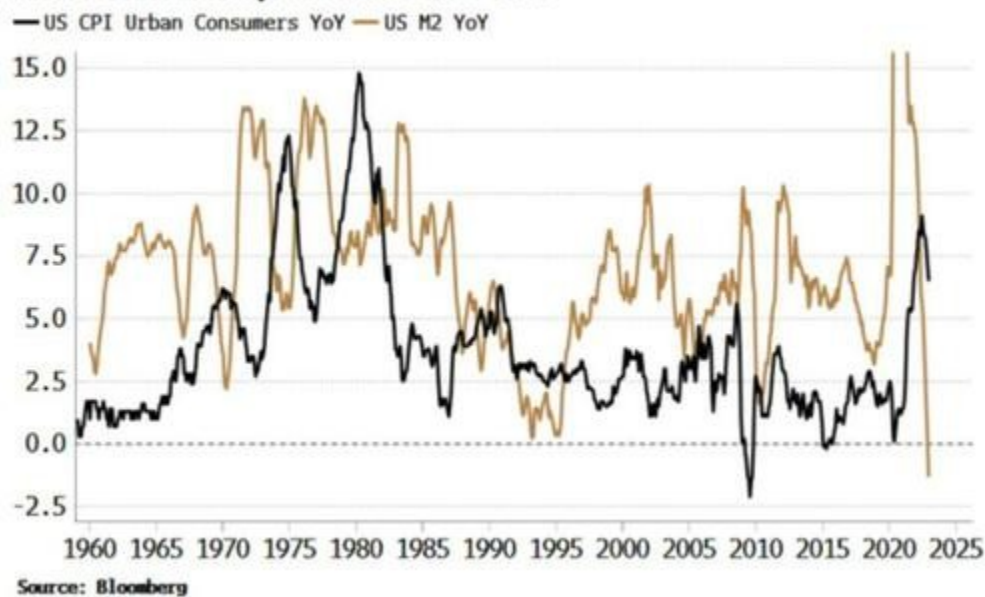
Broad Money's First Contraction on Record



Rises and falls in M2 are naively assumed to lead to rises and falls in inflation. But two variables that look correlated don't have to have a causative relationship, and the connection is in fact explained by a third variable.

M2 and inflation may look like they go up and down at similar times, but a closer inspection shows there is no strong relationship. **The fundamental issue with M2 that is frequently not appreciated is that it is counter-cyclical.**

Non-Relationship With M2 and CPI



The biggest constituent of M2 is savings deposits.

Unlike demand deposits, which is current-account money and deposit money created for loans, money tends to be moved into savings deposits when there is risk-aversion, or a perception of slowing growth.

Vice-versa: money is often moved out of savings deposits and into current accounts when animal spirits are frothing. The rise in savings deposits in late 2020 was one of the first signs that a strong inflationary impulse in the US was coming in 2021.

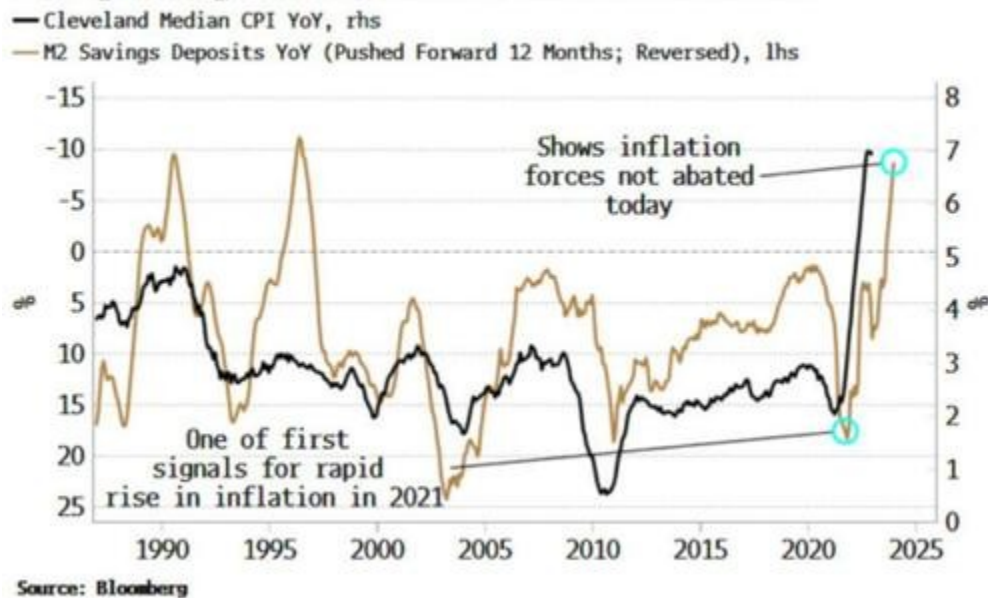
There used to be a clear division between M1, which was mainly demand deposits, and M2, which was mainly savings deposits, until **May 2020 when the Fed decided that savings deposits would be swept into the Other Liquid Deposits component of M1.** *(This was due to an amendment to the Fed's Regulation D which made savings and demand deposits more fungible.)*

Nevertheless, we can reconstruct the savings-deposit data.

In the chart below it is reversed and pushed forward by 12 months, and we can see it clearly leads the inflation trend, as gauged by the Cleveland Fed's Median CPI.

Growth in savings deposits has not started to rise yet, showing that underlying inflationary forces have not abated.

Falling Savings Show Inflation Forces Are Still Here



Headline inflation is likely to continue to fall due the lagged impact of commodity-price falls and base effects, but the contraction in M2 is not giving any signals that the inflationary regime is coming to an end.

Markets: Short-Seller Hindenburg Targets India's Richest Man For "Brazen Stock Manipulation"
War: Ukrainian Deputy defense minister steps down

Ukraine's deputy infrastructure minister, Vasyl Lozynsky, was dismissed and arrested over allegations of embezzlement.

War: Turkey withdraws from over a dozen military bases in Duhok province: Sources, jan.25th

Turkey has withdrawn troops from over a dozen military bases in Duhok province in a month, informed civilians and military sources in the area told Rudaw this week.

Turkey has established tens of military points in the Kurdistan Region in recent years in the framework of a series of offensives it has carried out against the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). Twenty-seven of these bases have been set up following the launch of the so-called [Operation Claw-Lock](#) in April, Rudaw has learnt.

Civilian and security sources in Duhok province told Rudaw's Naif Ramadan on Sunday that Turkey had withdrawn 13 of its 27 military bases it had established since April.

In 2020, the Turkish presidency [published](#) a map in a tweet which purportedly showed nearly 40 Turkish "military points" in the Kurdistan Region. The tweet was later deleted.

War: jan.25th Iran, Syria Set to Conduct Joint-Military Drills, Expand Cooperation; Since the start of the Syrian war, Iran has provided military support to Damascus against the Nusra Front, ISIS and other external terror threats

Baqeri added that Tehran is fully willing to support Damascus in its fight against terrorism and other external threats. In 2020, Iran and Syria signed a comprehensive agreement to enhance their cooperation in the military and defense sectors.

Since the start of the Syrian conflict in 2011, Iran has provided Syria with military support against western-backed

militant groups. After initially losing considerable territory to al-Qaeda affiliated groups, including the Nusra Front and ISIS, Russia and Iran have fought alongside the Syria Arab Army (SAA) to recover much of this territory.

Earlier this month, a report [released](#) by *Newsweek* citing an anonymous US official disclosed that Iran had stepped up deployment of its air defense systems to Syria over the past two years.

As part of the increased supply of defense technology to Damascus, the report states that these deliveries include the latest generation of the locally produced Iranian Bavar-373 system and are aimed at helping Syria defend against illegal Israeli airstrikes in its territory.

As far back as 2013, Israel has been launching attacks against alleged Iranian and Hezbollah targets in Syria. It has recently intensified attacks on Syria's [major airports](#) to halt Tehran's increasing use of aerial supply lines to deliver arms to its allies in Syria, Lebanon, and the occupied Palestinian territories, regional diplomatic and intelligence sources say.

In 2018, Syrian troops accidentally downed a Russian aircraft, mistakenly thinking it was an Israeli jet that had earlier infiltrated the country's airspace to carry out strikes.

Moscow held Israel responsible for the incident, which left over a dozen Russian servicemen dead, prompting Russia to respond by delivering its renowned S-300 missile defense system to Syria.

History, church: : reformation, lutheranism: "The split between the Lutherans and the Roman Catholics was made public and clear with the 1521 Edict of Worms: the edicts of the Diet condemned Luther and officially banned citizens of the Holy Roman Empire from defending or propagating his ideas, subjecting advocates of Lutheranism to forfeiture of all property, half of the seized property to be forfeited to the imperial government and the remaining half forfeit to the party who brought the accusation."

The split between the Lutherans and the Roman Catholics was made public and clear with the 1521 [Edict of Worms](#): the edicts of the [Diet](#) condemned Luther and officially banned citizens of the [Holy Roman Empire](#) from defending or propagating his ideas, subjecting advocates of Lutheranism to forfeiture of all property, half of the seized property to be forfeited to the imperial government and the remaining half forfeit to the party who brought the accusation.^[3]

Lutheranism spread through all of [Scandinavia](#) during the 16th century, as the monarch of [Denmark-Norway](#) (also ruling [Iceland](#) and the [Faroe Islands](#)) and the monarch of [Sweden](#) (also ruling [Finland](#)) adopted Lutheranism. Through Baltic-German and Swedish rule, Lutheranism also spread into [Estonia](#) and [Latvia](#).

The first complete [Bible](#) in [Danish](#) was based on [Martin Luther's translation](#) into [German](#). It was published in 1550 with 3,000 copies printed in the first edition; a second edition was published in 1589.^[15] Unlike Catholicism, the Lutheran Church does not believe that tradition is a carrier of the "Word of God", or that only the communion of the [Bishop of Rome](#) has been entrusted to interpret the "Word of God".^{[9][16]}

The [Reformation in Sweden](#) began with [Olaus](#) and [Laurentius Petri](#), brothers who took the Reformation to Sweden after studying in Germany. They led [Gustav Vasa](#), elected king in 1523, to Lutheranism. The pope's refusal to allow the replacement of an archbishop who had supported the invading forces opposing Gustav Vasa during the [Stockholm Bloodbath](#) led to the severing of any official connection between Sweden and the papacy in 1523.^[10]

Four years later, at the [Diet of Västerås](#) ^[sv], the king succeeded in forcing the diet to accept his dominion over the national church. The king was given possession of all church properties, as well as the church appointments and approval of the clergy. While this effectively granted official sanction to Lutheran ideas,^[10] Lutheranism did not become official until 1593. At that time the [Uppsala Synod](#) declared Holy Scripture the sole guideline for faith, with four documents accepted as faithful and authoritative explanations of it: the [Apostles' Creed](#), the [Nicene Creed](#), the [Athanasian Creed](#), and the unaltered *Augsburg Confession* of 1530.^[17] [Mikael Agricola](#)'s translation of the first [Finnish New Testament](#) was published in 1548.^[18]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lutheranism>

war: However, despite the growing number of countries sending armored vehicles to Kyiv, it is still waiting for German Leopard 2 tanks. A decision on whether or not Berlin would finally heed Ukraine's request was supposed to be released last week, but German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius said his country needs more time. "There are good reasons for the delivery and there are good reasons against it. And given the overall situation of a war that has been going on for almost one year now, all the pros and cons have to be weighed very carefully, and that assessment is explicitly shared by many allies," Pistorius told reporters. Jan.24th

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War: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday said that Sweden should not expect support from Ankara on its NATO bid in response to anti-Islam protests that took place in Sweden over the weekend. Jan24

War: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz previously said he was not providing tanks to Ukraine because he wanted to avoid a direct clash between Russia and NATO. But the US and other NATO countries are less concerned about escalating the war and put heavy pressure on Berlin to send the tanks. Hawks in Congress have been pressuring the Biden administration to provide the Abrams, with Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), the head of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, demanding the US send "just one" tank to get Berlin to oblige. Jan24

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz previously said he was not providing tanks to Ukraine because he wanted to avoid a direct clash between Russia and NATO. But the US and other NATO countries are less concerned about escalating the war and put heavy pressure on Berlin to send the tanks.

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The US providing its main battle tank would mark the latest significant escalation of military aid for Ukraine. In January alone, the US pledged over

\$5.5 billion in military aid for Ukraine and started providing [Bradley](#) and [Stryker](#) fighting vehicles for the first time.

The funds for the military aid are being pulled from the latest aid package for Ukraine that was passed in December. At this point, the US has authorized about \$113 billion to spend on the war since Russia's February 2022 invasion.

War: **Russian Warship Armed With Hypersonic Missiles To Join China In South Africa-Hosted Drills**

History, Germany: **(paywall) Hate Speech and Identity Politics in Germany, 1848-1914**

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/43965202>

markets: jan24 **Investors Surge Back Into Oil At Fastest Pace In 5 Years***By John Kemp, senior market analyst*

media, stats, tech, censorship, journal: nice
deepsearched zh comment (suspect those are the only ones that are real): All social media resources, all media resources are 100% controlled, no matter who, law enforcement agencies, governments, the head of state, but they are controlled. You don't have to search far, reach out to the keyboard and you are here... Having written absolute facts that reflect reality, you simply fall under the BAN, or at least under the pressure of smart BOT programs, hot-weave algorithms, etc. Moreover, all postal services, all e-mail services without exception, are controlled by the same structures... Even 30 years ago, I could not even imagine that the United States would turn from a country of democracy and freedom of speech into a country of autocracy with an authoritarian regime, with the highest rate of corruption in the upper echelons of power.

Censorship: scary comments from high level eu bureaucrat about censorship and banning twitter

EU Commissioner for Values and Transparency Věra Jourová makes a statement from the frozen doorstep of Davos **arguing that Twitter is subject to EU rules for preventing "harm to society"**.

"The time of the Wild West is over," Jourova told [EuroNews](#).

"We will have the Digital Services Act [DSA]. We will have the Code of Practice as a part of this legislation."

“So, after Mr Musk took over Twitter with his ‘freedom of speech absolutism,’ we are the protectors of freedom of speech as well,” she added.

“But at the same time, we cannot accept, for instance, illegal content online and so on. So, our message was clear: **we have rules which have to be complied with, otherwise there will be sanctions.**”

It should be noted that these same bureaucrats were defending Twitter operations as a private company only a year ago (as long as company policies fell in line with government messaging). As soon as Twitter started to allow more free speech, suddenly its operations as a private company became an international problem.

Again, the conflict is about one question - Should people be allowed say what they want and share the information that they want within the confines of constitutional law? For those that believe the answer is no, we have to then ask "Why?" What about free speech is so threatening to them? Can mere speech really do damage to society? Is this really about public safety? Or, is it about power, and the means to lie to the public while removing their ability to contradict?

Markets, war: cool quote from current working european high level banker: "we see not only ‘Bretton Woods 3!’ fist-pumping, but the Financial Times at Davos asking, ‘The Era of Markets Ended in 2019: What Comes Next?’, and Wolfgang Munchau noting, ‘As globalisation fragments, politics is again reigning supreme over economics.’"

more from the same post...

With the emergence of neoclassical economics under Walras and Jevons, et al., *political*-economy was jettisoned and replaced with ‘equilibrium’ maths and ‘logical’ twaddle – as well as the historical record that the worst parts of Classical economics carried over into the neoclassical were the linked to Western imperialism: free trade (and colonialism) were spread by the British *literally* at gun point. In fact, as Adam Tooze underlined this week in a reference to Slobodian’s ‘Globalists’ this week, neoliberal, neoclassical economics, partially emerged from the collapse of the Habsburg Empire post-WWI, where: *“Austrian economists of the 1920s saw the democratic nation-state as a threat to the free flow of resources that had been previously secured by Imperial power. A new political economy was required to encase the economy*

and insulate it from democratic national sovereignty." In short, it was an excuse to keep political-economy vested-interest power structures in place before voters could get a say and redistribute any capital.

Censorship, tech: Case 1:23-cv-00108:DOJ complaint, "Google controls more than a quarter of all US digital ads;Google keeps at least thirty cents—and sometimes far more—of each advertising dollar flowing from advertisers to website publishers through Google's ad tech tools"

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/google-critic-is-cleared-to-work-on-u-s-antitrust-matters-involving-search-giant-11673637343>

s3dotdocumentcloudorg/documents/23584905/justice-department-lawsuit-against-google.pdf

"But competition in the ad tech space is broken, for reasons that were neither accidental nor inevitable. One industry behemoth, Google, has corrupted legitimate competition in the ad tech industry by engaging in a systematic campaign to seize control of the wide swath of high-tech tools used by publishers, advertisers, and brokers, to facilitate digital advertising. Having inserted itself into all aspects of the digital advertising marketplace, Google has used anticompetitive, exclusionary, and unlawful means to eliminate or severely diminish any threat to its dominance over digital advertising technologies," the complaint said.

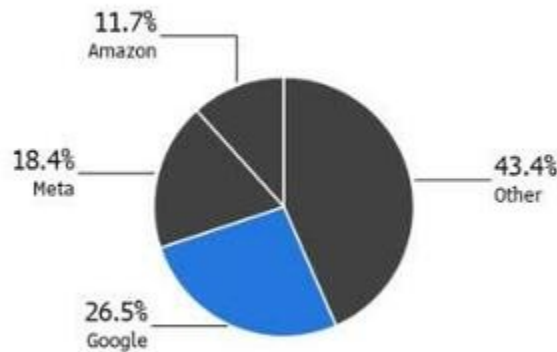
And the DOJ complaint continued:

"The harm is clear: website creators earn less, and advertisers pay more, than they would in a market where unfettered competitive pressure could discipline prices and lead to more innovative ad tech tools that would ultimately result in higher quality and lower cost transactions for market participants. And this conduct hurts all of us because, as publishers make less money from advertisements, fewer publishers are able to offer internet content without subscriptions, paywalls, or alternative forms of monetization. One troubling, but revealing, statistic demonstrates the point: on average, Google keeps at least thirty cents—and sometimes far more—of each advertising dollar flowing from advertisers to website publishers through Google's ad tech tools. Google's own internal documents concede that Google would earn far less in a competitive market."

Google controls more than a quarter of all US digital ads, according to Bloomberg data.

Google Controls More Than A Quarter Of US Digital Ads

Percentage of total US digital ad spending



Source: eMarketer estimates 2023

Bloomberg

Markets: Jeremy Grantham Doubles Down On Market Apocalypse, Warns Of 17% Crash, Doesn't Rule Out "Brutal Decline" To 2,000, jan24

War: U.S. and germany edge closer to agreement sending tanks; poland needs german permission first, but eager to support ukraine--doomsday clock breaks another record

"The Biden administration is leaning toward sending a significant number of Abrams M1 tanks to Ukraine and an announcement of the deliveries could come this week, U.S. officials said," the [report](#) indicates.

At the moment, a reluctant German government is coming under immense pressure to allow its Leopard 2 main battle tanks to be transferred to Ukrainian forces. Poland is leading the way in this pressure campaign.

"The announcement would be part of a broader diplomatic understanding with Germany in which Berlin would agree to send a smaller number of its own Leopard 2 tanks and would also approve the delivery of more of the German-made tanks by Poland and other nations," WSJ continues. "It would settle a

trans-Atlantic disagreement over the tanks that had threatened to open fissures as the war drags into the end of its first year."

Earlier this month Berlin signaled that would authorize the Leopards if Washington made the first move and took the initiative on sending the Abrams.

As of Tuesday the Polish government says it has **formally submitted its request to Berlin to send the tanks**. Germany by law must first authorize these transfers of its German-manufactured military items by other nations.

"The Germans have already received our request for consent to transfer Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine," Polish Defense Minister Mariusz Błaszczak confirmed on Tuesday. "I also appeal to the German side to join the coalition of countries supporting Ukraine with Leopard 2 tanks."

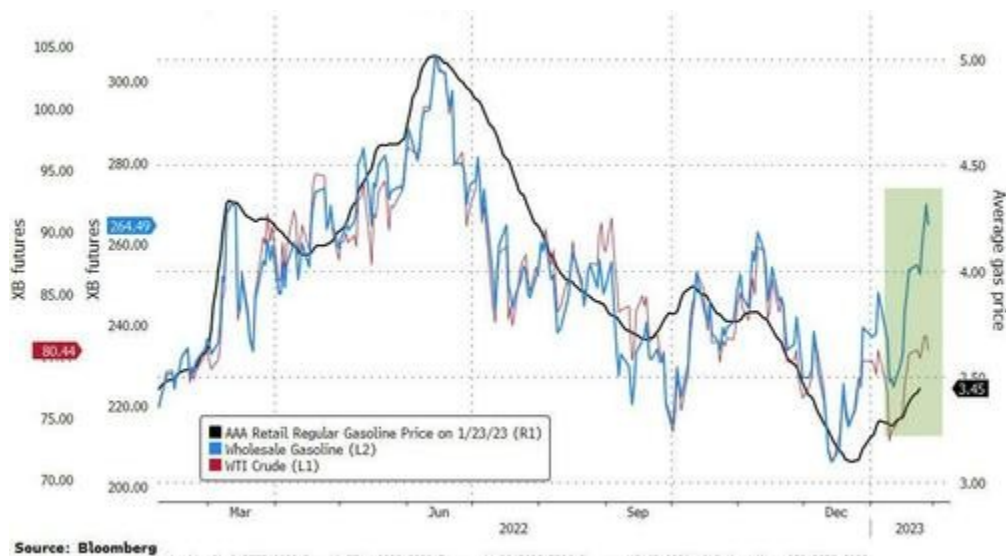
Despite prior signals that Berlin would not be approving the transfer anytime soon for stated reasons of wishing to avoid escalation with Russia, as predicted it looks as if Germany is weakening under pressure.

Bloomberg reports [Tuesday that](#) "**Germany is expected to give Poland approval as soon as Wednesday to re-export** its German-made Leopard tanks to Ukraine, according to people familiar with the matter, who asked not to be identified because the decision is private."

This despite repeat warnings from Russian officials this week that ['global catastrophe'](#) could be unleashed if the West keeps pumping heavier weapons in the conflict, also amid nuclear escalation warnings.

Markets, war: Gasoline prices continue to climb for the fourth straight week, rising 32.7 cents over the last month as crude oil prices rise, data from AAA showed on Monday. Jan24

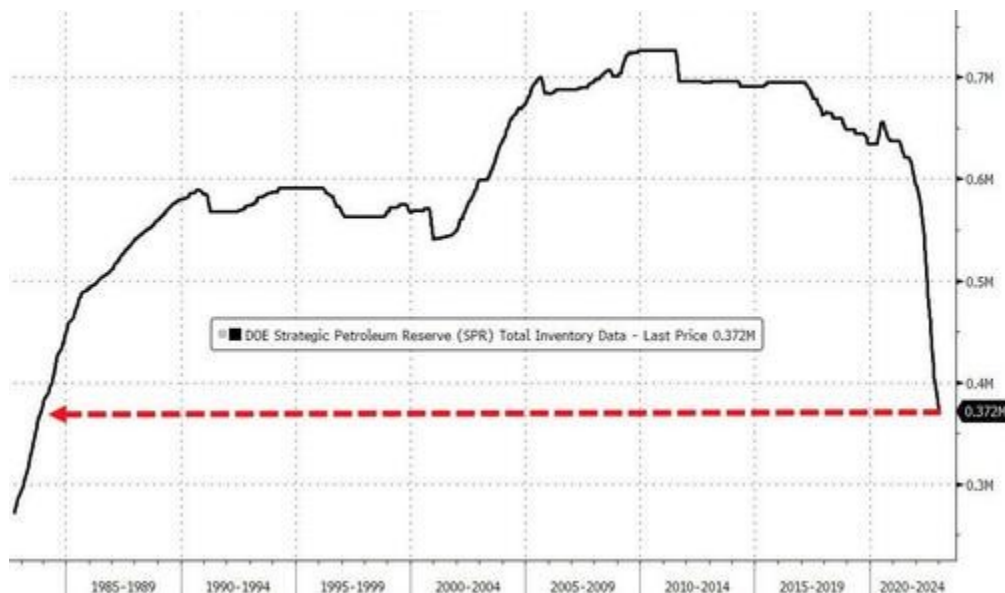
Gasoline prices are rising along with the rise in [WTI crude oil](#) prices, which are up \$3 per barrel from a week ago, and up \$2 per barrel from a month ago... and given the lags of the supply chain, pump prices are set to go considerably higher...



In addition to rising crude oil prices, gasoline prices are rising as “continued refinery challenges kept supply of gasoline from rising more substantially,” Patrick DeHaan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy said in a Monday note.

“Macroeconomic factors have continued to weigh on oil and refined products, as strong demand in China hasn’t been slowed much by a surge in new Covid cases.”

In addition, releases of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve have wrapped up.



Concerns are increasing that without additional oil, supply will tighten in the weeks ahead, *especially as the nation starts to move away from softer demand in the height of winter. Moving forward, it doesn't look good for motorists, with prices likely to continue accelerating," DeHaan added.*

U.S. crude oil inventories have risen over the last two weeks by leaps and bounds, while gasoline inventories also grew, but by a lesser amount. **Still, gasoline inventories are below the five-year average for this time of year.**

Markets, war:

Inflation has not peaked. And the data confirms this.

Almost ALL of the drop in inflation data has come from energy prices falling. And energy prices have fallen because the Biden administration dumped over 250 MILLION barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR).

Chair Rodgers Applauds Passage of H.R. 22 to Prevent the Sale of SPR Oil to China

"To cover up his failed policies driving our energy and inflation crisis, President Biden is draining our nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserves at an alarming rate. America's SPR - once the world's largest stockpile - has

been depleted to the lowest levels since 1983. To date, President Biden has released more from the SPR than all U.S. presidents in history combined. Jan 12, 2023

Washington, D.C. — House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) released the following statement on the passage of H.R. 22, the *Protecting America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve from China Act*, out of the House, [out of the House by a bipartisan vote of 331-97](#):

“To cover up his failed policies driving our energy and inflation crisis, President Biden is draining our nation’s Strategic Petroleum Reserves at an alarming rate. America’s SPR – once the world’s largest stockpile – has been depleted to the lowest levels since 1983. To date, President Biden has released more from the SPR than all U.S. presidents in history combined. Millions of barrels of that oil have gone to China, which now has the world’s largest government-controlled stockpile of oil. Draining our strategic reserves for political purposes and selling it to China is a significant threat to our national and energy security. This must be stopped, which is why I’m proud to join my Republican colleagues in passing H.R. 22, one of the most bipartisan votes on an energy bill in many years and multiple Congresses. There’s more to come. This is just the beginning.”

[illegible]

The latest and most glaring example of this is the claim that “inflation has peaked.” Everywhere you look in the media (and on social media) people repeat this statement as if it is a fact.

To put this into perspective, it's nearly 40% of the SPR. And the Biden admin dumped it in the span of less than two years. *THAT* is why energy prices dropped, which accounts for almost ALL of the drop in inflation data.

See for yourself. Outside of the drop in energy prices, the only significant drop in prices occurred in used car vehicles. Everything else is still RISING in price year over year.

	Seasonally adjusted changes from preceding month							Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2022
	Jun. 2022	Jul. 2022	Aug. 2022	Sep. 2022	Oct. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2022	
All items	1.3	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	-0.1	6.5
Food	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.3	10.4
Food at home	1.0	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.2	11.8
Food away from home(1)	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.4	8.3
Energy	7.5	-4.6	-5.0	-2.1	1.8	-1.6	-4.5	7.3
Energy commodities	10.4	-7.6	-10.1	-4.7	4.4	-2.0	-9.4	0.4
Gasoline (all types)	11.2	-7.7	-10.6	-4.9	4.0	-2.0	-9.4	-1.5
Fuel oil(1)	-1.2	-11.0	-5.9	-2.7	19.8	1.7	-16.6	41.5
Energy services	3.5	0.1	2.1	1.1	-1.2	-1.1	1.5	15.6
Electricity	1.7	1.6	1.5	0.4	0.1	-0.2	1.0	14.3
Utility (piped) gas service	8.2	-3.6	3.5	2.9	-4.6	-3.5	3.0	19.3
All items less food and energy	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.3	5.7
Commodities less food and energy commodities	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.0	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	2.1
New vehicles	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.0	-0.1	5.9
Used cars and trucks	1.6	-0.4	-0.1	-1.1	-2.4	-2.9	-2.5	-8.8
Apparel	0.8	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	-0.7	0.2	0.5	2.9
Medical care commodities(1)	0.4	0.6	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	3.2
Services less energy services	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.5	7.0
Shelter	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.8	7.5
Transportation services	2.1	-0.5	0.5	1.9	0.8	-0.1	0.2	14.6
Medical care services	0.7	0.4	0.8	1.0	-0.6	-0.7	0.1	4.1
Footnotes								
(1) Not seasonally adjusted.								

See not sure if this is real lol. It obviously is, but it's just what he's saying is completely the opposite of what practically everybody in the msm business media is reporting right now, so I have to just...double check to be sure. He continues on below.

"I bring all of this up because now that the Biden admin is no longer dumping tens of millions of barrels of oil on the open market, energy prices are bottoming.

Oil has bottomed and is starting to turn up.

So, unless President Biden wants to empty the SPR to zero, this "inflation has peaked" narrative is over. Inflation is coming back in a big way. And NO ONE is positioned for it."

AND ADDED THIS LATER BECAUSE I FORGOT TO ADD TO FIRST MESSAGE

The sudden turn around seems to have been driven by a combination of low initial positioning and a sudden increase in confidence about the outlook for the global economy and oil consumption. **Recent inflation data have shown the rate of price increases is moderating, which has raised hopes for an early peak in the interest rate cycle.**

Markets, war: A Financial Times investigation based on leaked emails and documents, as well as corporate records, export certificates and interviews, demonstrates how Prigozhin has used leading corporate lawyers around the world to try to keep western governments at bay.

War: jan24

more escalation, THINGS AT MAJOR TURNING POINT. VERY SCARY. GERMANY KNOWS THAT ITS DECISION TO SEND THE TANKS WILL BE WW3

US, Israel Launch 'Most Significant' Drills in History

Netanyahu Vows to Bring Fired Minister Dery Back Into Govt

Poland to Seek Berlin's OK to Send Ukraine Tanks

DM Reznikov Under Fire as Corruption Probes Rock Ukraine

Russia Says Still No Plans for New START Talks

Lavrov Says the West's 'Hybrid War' on Russia Becoming a 'Real War'

House Speaker McCarthy Plans to Visit Taiwan

Erdogan Says Turkey Won't Support Sweden's NATO Bid

Mission Creep? How the US Role in Ukraine Has Slowly Escalated

by Branko Marcetic

Frontline

US Military Vets in Ukraine
Are Fighting Each Other in
Court
Saudi-Led Coalition Shelling
Kills Two, Injures Four in
Northern Yemen
Turkey Exploring Massive
UK Arms Deal Involving
Planes, Ships and Tank
Engines

Ukraine

Head of Russian-Occupied Parts
of Ukraine's Donetsk Says Visited
Soledar
Italy Confirms Smp-T Missile-
Defense Donation to Ukraine
EU Agrees Extra \$540 Million to
Arm Ukraine
Zelensky Ally Threatens Jailings
After High-Profile Graft
Allegations
Hungary Won't Veto EU Arms
Funding to Ukraine, Official Says
Russia Presses Attack in
Ukraine's South While Kyiv Waits
for Arms

Tanks for Ukraine?

[Rheinmetall Could Deliver 139 Leopard Tanks to Ukraine](#)
[A Look at Leopard 2 Tanks That Could Soon Be Sent to Ukraine](#)
[Finland Says It Is Awaiting Germany's Decision to Send Leopard Tanks](#)
[Morocco First African Nation to Provide Tanks to Ukraine: Report](#)
[Explainer: How to Correctly Re-Export German Tanks](#)

Russia

[Russia Declares US Sakharov Foundation 'Undesirable'](#)
[Russia Says Ukraine Storing Arms at Nuclear Plants, Kyiv Denies](#)
[Russia, Estonia Expel Ambassadors Amid 'Destroyed' Relations](#)
[In Moscow, Quiet Antiwar Protest With Flowers, Plush Toys](#)
[Russian Crude Exports From Baltic Ports See 50% Hike in January](#)
[Tokyo to Pursue Peace Treaty With Moscow Despite Strained Ties: PM](#)
[Russia Says Held Air Defense Training in Moscow Region](#)

Italy

[Italy to Wean Itself Off Russian Gas Within Two Years](#)
[Documents Reveal Italy as Customer of Hero-30 Kamikaze Drones](#)

Nagorno-Karabakh

[EU Greenlights Armenia Mission to Ease Border Tensions](#)
[US Seeks Immediate Reopening of Key Corridor to Ease Armenia-Azerbaijan Tensions](#)

Europe

[Bulgaria Destroys Mine Drifting Near Its Black Sea Coast](#)

[US Says Finland, Sweden Are Ready to Join NATO Alliance](#)

[Germany Starts Deploying Patriot Air Defense Units to Poland](#)
[Norway Arrests Former Wagner Fighter Who Seeks Asylum](#)
[President Vucic Says Serbia Faces International Isolation Over Kosovo](#)
[UK Grid to Pay Households for Using Less Energy During Cold Snap](#)

Afghanistan

[Families Leave Homes in Afghanistan's Farah District Over Lack of Schools](#)
[UN Continues to Support Afghan Women: Official](#)
[Afghanistan Faces Unprecedented Humanitarian Crisis: UN Agency](#)
[Iran Seeks Commitment to Water Treaty With Afghanistan](#)

Pakistan

[Pakistan Hit by Nationwide Power Outage After Grid Failure](#)
[IED Attack Kills Soldier in Pakistan](#)

Asia

[Philippines President Marcos Seeks Foreign Minister Talks With China on Sea Feuds](#)
[Taiwan President Tells Pope War With China Not an Option](#)
[Japanese PM Kishida Prioritizes Arms Buildup, Reversing Low Birthrate](#)

Latin America

[Cuba Begins London Court Battle Over Unpaid Castro-Era Debt](#)
[Mexico's Former Safety Chief Goes on Trial in US Drug Case](#)

New Israeli Government

[Israel's AG Denies Considering Declaring Netanyahu Unfit for Office](#)
[Israeli Coalition to Destroy New Palestinian Homes in Area C](#)
[Central Bank Policymaker Quits](#)

[to Fight Israel's Judicial Overhaul](#)
[Former Israeli Defense Legal](#)
[Adviser Warns Against Planned](#)
[Government Moves in West Bank](#)

Palestine/Israel

[Protests After Israeli Threats to](#)
[Remove Palestinian Village](#)
[Israeli Army Admits to](#)
['Unnecessary' Killing of](#)
[Palestinian](#)
[HRW Warns Israeli Rules in West](#)
[Bank Risks 'Another Gaza'](#)
[Israeli Occupation Forces Arrest](#)
[16 Palestinians, Including](#)
[13-Year-Old Child](#)
[Israel Outraged by 'Irresponsible'](#)
[Visit of Western Envoys to Al-](#)
[Aqsa Mosque](#)
[Israel Formally Requests 25 F-15](#)
[EX jets From the US: Sources](#)

Iraq

[Iraq Daily Roundup: 11 Killed](#)
[Sadr Stages Unexpected Political](#)
[Comeback Through Iraq's Gulf](#)
[Cup Victory](#)
[Iraqi PM Walks Diplomatic](#)
[Tightrope in Crackdown on](#)
[Dollars Smuggled to Iran](#)
[Iraqis Injured in Anti-Sweden](#)
[Protest in Baghdad After Koran](#)
[Burning](#)
[Iraqi PM Replaces Central Bank](#)
[Governor Over Currency Drop](#)

Iran

[Iran, Syria Set to Conduct Joint-](#)
[Military Drills, Expand](#)
[Cooperation](#)
[More Sanctions as Iran and EU](#)
[Clash Over IRGC 'Terror' Label](#)

Syria

[Russia, Syria Restore Syrian Air](#)
[Base for Joint Use](#)
[Turkey-Backed Fighters Cut Olive](#)
[Trees in Afrin](#)

Lebanon

[Investigation Into Beirut](#)
[Explosion Resumes After 13](#)
[Months of Stalemate](#)

[Border Tensions Between
Lebanese Army, Israel Escalate](#)

Middle East

[UK Royal Navy Takes Over
Middle East Maritime Security
Task Force](#)

[Jordan OKs Purchase of 12 Block
70 F-16s From Lockheed Martin](#)

[Egypt Lawyers End Strike After
Colleagues Released Over Court
Altercation](#)

[Kuwait's Government Resigns
Amid Struggle With Assembly](#)

Africa

[Algeria, Italy Look to Broaden
Ties Beyond Coveted Energy
Morocco Votes to Review Ties
With European Parliament](#)

[Burkina Faso Ends French
Military Accord, Says It Will
Defend Itself](#)

[Cameroon Denies Asking for Help
to Mediate Separatist Conflict](#)

[Suspected ADF Rebels Kill 23 in
East DR Congo Attack](#)

[Governor Declares Emergency in
Sudan Province After Four Killed
'The Crocodile Has Not Changed':
Zimbabwe Opposition Warns of
Election Violence](#)

The War at Home

[Military Probing Whether Cancers
Linked to Nuclear Silo Work at
Malmstrom AFB](#)

[US and Japan Team Up for Indo-
Pacific Training Exercise](#)

[US Drops Case Against Marine
Veteran Cop Accused of Spying
for China](#)

[US: Ex-FBI Counterintelligence
Agent Aided Russian Oligarch](#)

Brazil

[Lula Says Brazil and Argentina
Will Study Common Currency for
Trade](#)

[Venezuela Calls Off Maduro
Meeting With Lula, Brazil Govt](#)

Markets, war: US NatGas Prices Soar After Freeport "Completed Repairs" Of Damaged Terminal, Aims For Partial Restart

US natural gas futures jumped late in the session after news hit that Freeport LNG, a major liquefied natural gas export terminal on the Texas coast which has been closed since an explosion last summer, said repairs to the terminal are complete and is seeking approval for restart.

Freeport wrote a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) requesting permission to restart the terminal that accounts for about 15% of all US LNG exports.

*Pursuant to your letter dated June 30, 2022, Freeport LNG Development, LP ("Freeport") **must obtain written approval from FERC before restarting** any non-emergency operations in existing facilities, constructing new or modified facilities, and commissioning and placing any facilities back into service.*

*As further described herein, **Freeport has completed repairs** to the Export Facility on Quintana Island, Texas, performed safety reviews, revised various procedures, implemented new safety systems and performed necessary training in order to **safely begin to resume initial operations at its Export Facility.***

NatGas surged 9% to \$3.45 per million British thermal units.

In recent weeks, we've pointed out Freeport flows were indications the plant was nearing a restart:

- [NatGas Flows Start To Freeport LNG's Long-Shut Export Plant](#)
- [Freeport LNG Export Facility's Power Flows Surge For First Time Since Explosion](#)

However, Houston-based energy firm [Criterion Research](#) had this to say:

Criterion's weekly analysis of progress at Freeport LNG indicated that repair work was still taking place as of last week, so it's unclear what Freeport means when it cited that they have "completed repairs." We don't believe feed gas will be flowing in January, and February still seems to be an optimistic time frame for strong nominations. Based on prior announcements, once they get the green light to restart, Freeport's timeline pinned down a ramp from zero to 2 Bcf/d over an approximately two-month period.

Here's Freeport's full letter to FERC:

Any February cold weather across the Lower 48, plus the Freeport export restart, could be bullish catalysts for reversing months of sliding NatGas prices.

Policy: Go to first pageGo to previous pageGo to page 11Go to page 22Go to page 33Go to next pageGo to last page

Use your mouse to resize the view. If you're using your keyboard, you can use left and right arrow keys to resize.

Social Security Will Be Bankrupt By 2033 On Current Trajectory: CBO Report jan24

Health, masks: Australians Were Once Prosecuted For Claiming Face Masks Worked Against Viruses

Australians who tried to sell surgical face masks on the back of claims they worked against viruses were once threatened with prosecution and massive fines by the government.

Yes, really.

An [article](#) titled 'Farce mask: it's safe for only 20 minutes' published by the Sydney Morning Herald in 2003 explained how, "Retailers who cash in on community fears about SARS by exaggerating the health benefits of surgical masks could face fines of up to \$110,000."

The article quotes a public health experts who said that face masks are largely useless at stopping the spread of viruses and could even worsen the situation.

"Those masks are only effective so long as they are dry," said Professor Yvonne Cossart of the Department of Infectious Diseases at the University of Sydney.

"As soon as they become saturated with the moisture in your breath they stop doing their job and pass on the droplets."

Twenty years ago Australians were prosecuted for saying masks work against viruses. Now they get arrested for not wearing masks during viral outbreaks.

As Mencken said, our governments are dishonest, insane and intolerable. [@smh](#) <https://t.co/wlGcvbW2OH> <https://t.co/XWVIEoNlpy> pic.twitter.com/coaGDxa1SZ

— Tony Heller (@TonyClimate) [January 23, 2023](#)

Professor Cossart said that the masks would need to be changed every 15-20 minutes to be in any way effective.

Her sentiments were echoed by John Bell from the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, who said that masks only offered "marginal benefit" and were largely psychological in their level of protection.

The story is noteworthy because during the COVID pandemic, the Australian government imposed one of the strictest lockdowns in the world and used face mask mandates as a brutal tool of population control.

As we previously [highlighted](#), authorities in Melbourne used high-tech surveillance drones to catch people outside not wearing masks.

At the height of the hysteria, there were numerous instances of police in Australia physically attacking people for not adhering to mask wearing rules, including [one incident](#) when a woman was placed in a chokehold by a male police officer.

Another video [showed](#) an elderly woman being arrested for not wearing a mask while sitting on a park bench.

Yet another clip showed police [pepper spraying](#) pre-teen children for not wearing face masks.

Another clip [showed](#) an elderly man suffering a suspected heart attack after he was arrested by police for not wearing a mask outside while exercising.

During the early months of the COVID pandemic, health authorities advised against wearing masks, only to subsequently do a 180 once face coverings became a convenient psychological tool of population control.

China, war, health: China Says Over 80% Of Population Infected With COVID, No Risk Of Virus Rebound

Remember when rational voices asked why, instead of locking down its economy every time there was even a small breakout of the Wu-flu, China (or the US for that matter) didn't simply do the right thing and allow covid to sweep through the land, creating a buffer of natural immunity and burn out on its own? Well, after bizarrely resisting the inevitable (one day we hope to have an answer why Xi Jinping pushed so hard for the now defunct Covid-zero policy) for so long, that's precisely what China has now done and on Saturday, a prominent government scientist said that **the possibility of a big COVID-19 rebound in China over the next two or three months is remote as 80% of people have now been infected, reaching the herd immunity threshold.**

While the mass movement of people during the ongoing Lunar New Year holiday period may spread the pandemic, boosting infections in some areas, a second COVID wave is unlikely in the near term, Wu Zunyou, chief epidemiologist at the China Center for Disease Control and Prevention, said on the Weibo social media platform, [according to Reuters](#).

Hundreds of millions of Chinese are traveling across the country for holiday reunions that had been suspended under recently eased COVID curbs, raising fears of fresh outbreaks in rural areas less equipped to manage large outbreaks.

To ease widespread if groundless fears which had been mercilessly stoked by Beijing for the past three years, a National Health Commission official also addressed the nation on Thursday saying that China has passed the peak of COVID patients in fever clinics, emergency rooms and with critical conditions.

According to "government data", which in China means propaganda, nearly 60,000 people with COVID had died in hospital as of Jan. 12, roughly a month after China abruptly dismantled its zero-COVID policy. But some experts said that figure probably vastly undercounts the full impact, as it excludes those who die at home, and because many doctors have said they are discouraged from citing COVID as a cause of death.

While over a billion Chinese having survived covid is good news, it's terrible news for those pharma companies that held the world hostage for the past three years: after all, just how will Pfizer and Moderna be able to afford more yachts if they can't sell their constantly changing, taxpayer-funded mRNA cocktail to the world's ([now 2nd](#)) largest population. As for the world's most populous country, India, it knew what was up more than a year ago when in [Sept 2021 its government](#) said it would not buy any shots from Pfizer and Moderna, thus depriving its population of countless complications from [myocarditis and pericarditis](#).

stats, markets: Mexican nationals are sending nearly \$60 billion a year in remittances from the United States to Mexico to aid friends and families who do not find enough succor from their government in Mexico City

American overdoses due to fentanyl and other opioids are nearing 100,000 deaths per year.

Since Biden took office in January 2021, America has allowed some 5-6 million illegal entries across its southern border.

"Just imagine: There are 40 million Mexicans in the United States - 40 million who were born here in Mexico, (or) who are the children of people who were born in Mexico!"

China, war: China's Northernmost City Sees Lowest Temperatures Ever Recorded

China's "North Pole" recorded its lowest temperature since records began.

The Chinese city of Mohe dropped to minus 53 degrees Celsius Sunday, according to [China Daily](#), citing data from the country's local weather bureau.

The frigid temperatures broke a previous record of minus 52.3 degrees Celsius. Temperatures have been below minus 50 degrees Celsius for three consecutive days.

"As a new round of extreme cold hit Heilongjiang, a number of areas in the Greater Khingan Range have recorded their coldest ever temperatures," China Daily said.

Earlier this month, we pointed out a cold air mass swirling in the Arctic was [shattering records](#). The rural northern Siberian town of Zhilinda recorded temperatures of minus 62.1 degrees Celsius.

Arcfield Weather's Paul Dorian explained recently that winter [isn't over](#) and called for a significant change in North American weather.

On Monday, the weather blog [Severe Weather Europe](#) outlined:

The Polar Vortex is starting to weaken as a strong Stratospheric Warming event is about to unfold. As the forecast indicates, the Polar Vortex will be heavily deformed but will not fully collapse. These important events can have a significant impact on the rest of winter in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

Some meteorologists continue to tweet long-term weather models that suggest a polar vortex could result in colder weather for the US and Europe at the end of the month or early February.

Markets, stats, war: Netherlands To Shut Down Europe's Largest Gas Field

Production from Groningen has been curtailed substantially, and there were plans in place to phase out production altogether because of increased seismic activity in the vicinity of the field even before the energy crisis began in 2021.

"It's very, very simple: everybody who has some knowledge of earthquake danger tells me that it's really very dangerous to keep on producing there. I'm quite convinced it's wise to close it down," Vijbrief told the FT.

War: jan24 German Intelligence "Alarmed" Ukraine Losing Hundreds Of Soldiers Every Day

War, history: soros predicted nato would use eastern countries as fighters in 1993 in a piece that he titled, "The New World Order"

In the piece, he outlines how Eastern Europeans could be used as the "manpower" in coming conflicts in an effort to reduce the number of deaths in Western countries, which Soros argues the West would not politically tolerate, unlike the east of Europe.

"The United States would not be called upon to act as the policeman of the world. When it acts, it would act in conjunction with others. Incidentally, the combination of manpower from Eastern Europe with the technical capabilities of NATO would greatly enhance the military potential of the Partnership because it would reduce the risk of body bags for NATO countries, which is the main constraint on their willingness to act. This is a viable alternative to the looming world disorder," wrote Soros in the article.

Soros acknowledges that the NATO countries have no appetite for "body bags," but his statement implicitly indicates that Eastern Europeans can fill this role.

What Soros described appears to be unfolding exactly as he predicted regarding the war in Ukraine. Armed with high-end NATO weapons, Ukrainian soldiers are actively countering Russia, which Soros had already feared would become a nationalist nation opposed to the global order he was promoting in 1993. The powerful Western countries have the necessary weapons, and Ukraine has the manpower. Given that Soros already saw the potential of what this symbiotic match could produce on the battlefield decades in advance will likely bolster his reputation as a calculating — and perhaps ruthless — strategic thinker.

As Soros predicted, Ukrainian society appears to be tolerating the high death toll in its current conflict with Russia. During the Vietnam War, the U.S. lost 58,220 over the course of approximately 10 years, and yet, the war saw strong opposition from the American public. Despite a far higher death toll in a far shorter period of time, Ukrainian society has seen little in terms of protests.

The lack of protest in Ukraine may also be helped by the fact that Ukraine has suspended most of civil society, [banned opposition parties and media](#), and even outlawed the Russian Orthodox Church. Another key factor in society's perspective on the conflict is that the war is taking place on Ukrainian soil, which is a highly motivating factor for Ukrainian soldiers.

All those Ukrainian bodies, of course, have come with a major price tag for Russia, with the country's cemeteries also filling up as quickly or even more so. Exact figures on casualties for either side remain unofficial and are likely inexact, but the war is costing both nations dearly in terms of life.

In the same article, Soros called for a “new world order.” The term is often derided in establishment media as a conspiracy theory, but Soros openly uses it. In addition, in the piece, the new world order he calls for is remarkably globalist and centralized. In other words, exactly the type of new world order critics of his, such as Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, have been warning about for over a decade.

“Therefore, the only basis for action is collective security. And that is where the problem lies. The collapse of the Soviet empire has created a collective security problem of the utmost gravity. Without a new world order, there will be disorder; that much is clear. But who will act as the world’s policeman? That is the question that needs to be answered,” Soros wrote.

Soros outlines a number of his theories in the piece, referring to open and closed societies as well as the “theory of revolutionary change,” which he said he had also applied to financial markets. The billionaire describes how the dissolution of the Soviet Union presented new global security challenges but also opportunities.

The original mission was to defend the free world against the Soviet empire. That mission is obsolete; but the collapse of the Soviet empire has left a security vacuum which has the potential of turning into a “black hole.” This presents a different kind of threat than the Soviet empire did. There is no direct threat from the region to the NATO countries; the danger is within the region, and it concerns conditions within states as much as relationships between states. Therefore, if NATO has any mission at all, it is to project its power and influence into the region, and the mission is best defined in terms of open and closed societies.

Closed societies based on nationalist principles constitute a threat to security because they need an enemy, either outside or within. But the threat is very different in character from the one NATO was constructed to confront, and a very different approach is required to combat this threat. It involves the building of democratic states and open societies and embedding them in a structure which precludes certain kinds of behavior.

Soros also writes in his piece that NATO was racing to grant membership to countries in Central and Eastern Europe before “Russia recovers.” **Soros appears to see NATO as actively transgressing against Russia during a time the country was still in chaos following the fall of communism.**

“The countries of Central Europe are clamoring for full membership of NATO as soon as possible, preferably before Russia recovers. Russia objects, not because it harbors any designs on its former empire but because it sees no advantage in consenting. Its national pride has been hurt and it is sick and tired of making concessions without corresponding benefits,” writes Soros.

The billionaire activist also makes a number of other proposals in the piece, including offering NATO membership to Japan, his goal being the creation of a “new world order.”

“Japan should be asked to join NATO. Then we would have the beginnings of an architecture for a new world order. It is based on the United States as the remaining superpower and on open society as the organizing principle. It consists of a series of alliances, the most important of which is NATO and, **through NATO, the Partnership for Peace which girds the Northern Hemisphere,”** he writes.

History, war: nice account of the geopolitical condition existing 2 years after the cold war written by the man himself,. George Soros, 1993

George Soros

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Toward a New World Order: The Future of NATO

Open Society Foundations, November 1, 1993



The Coming World Disorder

It is clear that the world order that prevailed since the end of the Second World War has come to an end. It had been based on two superpowers vying for world domination. They stood for diametrically opposed principles of social organization and they considered each other mortal enemies. The global conflict between them governed all the local conflicts. Occasionally it came to actual fighting, but both sides avoided an all-out confrontation because each side had the capacity to annihilate the other. It was possible to score local victories but they had to fall short of threatening the survival of the other side, because it might have endangered one's own survival. The prevailing order was called the Cold War. The name was apt because both sides were mobilized for war, battle lines were drawn throughout the world, and internal conflicts within each camp were kept frozen by the external threat.

The collapse of the Soviet empire was an internal development. Undoubtedly external pressure played a role but was not directly responsible for the collapse; otherwise, it would have been resisted. But that internally-generated revolutionary event has also changed the prevailing world order.

All this is clear now, but it was far from clear at the time it occurred. It caught most of the participants unaware. This is true of the leadership within the Soviet Union, but even more true of the leadership in the West. Gorbachev and his team were conscious that their internal reforms

War, markets: Only 8.5 percent of all EU and G7 companies have actually left Russia, according to research from the University of St. Gallen and the IMD business school in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Before the outbreak of war, there were more than 2,400 company branches and 1,400 companies from the EU and G7 [operating in Russia](#). By the end of November last year, **only 120 companies had left Russia or sold their company there.**

The research indicates that **the news of a mass exodus of Western firms from Russia has been largely exaggerated.**

In fact, businesses have resisted calls from governments, media, and civil society, according to the Belgian daily newspaper Het Laatste Nieuws.

Companies remain skeptical and reluctant about leaving Russia over fears of losing their business and staff.

Those who have left have ended up transferring assets into Russian hands, even for a single symbolic ruble or euro, as was the case with Renault and Nissan.

According to Forbes, the biggest beneficiary was oligarch Wladimir Potanin, whose Interros company bought Rosbank from [Societe Generale](#), making nearly 50 billion rubles (€667 million) in the process.

The second-biggest earner was Vladyslav Sviblov, whose Highland Gold Mining bought the assets of Canada's Kinross corporation, which netted him almost 40 billion rubles.

Not far behind was Ivan Tirishkin from SPB, who bought 49.5 percent of the shares in HKF-Bank LLC, making over 35 billion rubles.

Fourth on the list was the state research center FSUE NAMI, which took over the plants owned by Renault and Nissan, gaining assets worth just under 35 billion rubles.

War: jan24 US Bristles As South African Ally To Host Joint Naval Drills With Russia, China

War, china: US Confronts China Over State-Owned Companies Supplying Russian Military

Biden admin probes whether it goes beyond non-lethal aid, raising issue with Chinese officials...

war: US Military Says 30 Al-Shabaab Killed in Somalia Airstrike: "US Africom Command said it launched an airstrike in Somalia on Friday against al-Shabaab in support of the US-backed Mogadishu-based government." Jan23

war: important, read more: Al-Tanf (U.S. military base)

Al-Tanf ([Arabic](#): التَّنْف, [romanized](#): *al-Tanf*), also known as the **Al-Tanf garrison (ATG)**,^[2] is a [United States](#) military base within territory controlled by the [Syrian opposition](#) in [Homs Governorate](#), [Syria](#). It is located 24 km (15 mi) west of the [al-Tanf border crossing](#) in the [Syrian Desert](#). The surrounding deconfliction zone is located along the [Iraq](#) and [Jordan-Syria border](#). The [garrison](#) is located along a critical road known as the M2 [Baghdad-Damascus](#) Highway.

A significant [United States Armed Forces](#) presence at the outpost began in early 2016 during the [American-led intervention](#) in the [Syrian Civil War](#) in order to train anti-[Islamic State](#) fighters of the [New Syrian Army rebel](#) group, which was dissolved and reemerged as the [Revolutionary Commando Army](#) (Maghawir al-Thawra) in December 2016. As of 2023, the al-Tanf base continues to serve as the headquarters for the Revolutionary Commando Army and a contingent of at least 200 U.S. soldiers operating on behalf of the [CJTF-OIR](#) Coalition.

The [government of Syria](#)^{[3][4]} deems the U.S. military presence in al-Tanf illegal and "considers the presence of Turkish and US troops on its territory as an aggression and demands immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign forces from its territory."^[5] The [Iranian](#)^[6] and [Russian governments](#)^[7] have publicly supported the Syrian government's position and have regularly criticized the American presence in southeastern Syria whereas the [United States government](#) states that its presence at al-Tanf is legal. The U.S. has called the al-Tanf base a counter to the [Russia-Syria-Iran coalition's](#) residual influence in the area.^[8]

The [Rukban](#) refugee camp for [internally displaced Syrians](#) is located within the deconfliction zone.

War, censorship, lavant: **Moshe Ya'alon, former defense minister and former Israel Defense Forces chief of staff: "A country where the prime minister appoints all the judges and is responsible for promoting and firing them has a name. It's called a dictatorship. When this prime minister is also a defendant whom the State of Israel is accusing of serious crimes, it has a name. It's called a dictatorship of criminals."**

Referring to Justice Minister Yariv Levin's plan to weaken the judiciary, Ya'alon said, "This is legislation with a black flag flying over it," adding, "Legislation that turns Israel into a dictatorship where a criminal defendant appoints judges is patently illegal legislation."

Ya'alon continued, "The Jewish people paid a heavy price for the fact that in democratic elections in Germany a government came to power that eliminated democracy, and the first thing that it eliminated was the basic democratic principle of the independence of the judicial branch."

Former justice minister and former Netanyahu ally Gideon Sa'ar spoke at the demonstration in Haifa. "In the fight against corruption there is no right or left," Sa'ar said. "Mr. Prime Minister, you are not above the law. Uphold the High Court's ruling, fire Dery," he added, referring to [Arye Dery, who the top court ruled last week could not serve in Netanyahu's government due to a recent criminal conviction](#).

War, middle east:

Referring to Justice Minister Yariv Levin's plan to weaken the judiciary, Ya'alon said, "This is legislation with a black flag flying over it," adding, "Legislation that turns Israel into a dictatorship where a criminal defendant appoints judges is patently illegal legislation."

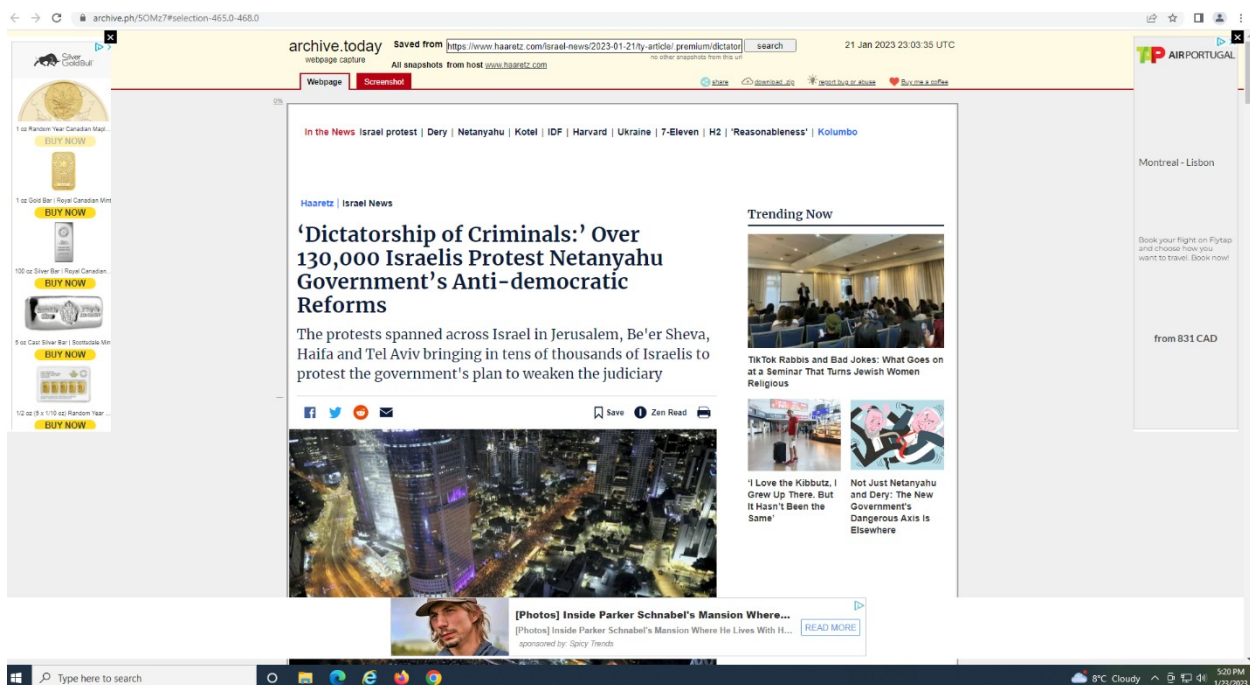
Ya'alon continued, **Saudi Arabia won't normalise Israel ties until Palestinian statehood: "Kingdom's foreign minister affirms position at Davos after Netanyahu spoke of bringing Riyadh into 'circle of peace'"**

Israel and Saudi Arabia do not have official diplomatic relations, but Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman met secretly with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the kingdom in 2020, according to several Israeli media reports at the time.

“True normalisation and true stability will only come through giving the Palestinians hope. Through giving the Palestinians dignity, and that requires giving the Palestinians a state,” said Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud, speaking to Bloomberg on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

A short video of the comments, in which the minister speaks English, was shared on the Saudi foreign ministry's official Twitter account.

Censorship, journal: archive.is has now added ads to both sides. If I remember correctly, the ads started with just one at the bottom of the page. This makes me think that the service is going to get shutdown at some point. It's literally profiting off of every page on the internet, even through bypassing paywalls to expensive subscription content.



War, Erdogan: Erdogan Tells Sweden: Don't Expect To Join NATO After Quran Burning Incident.."No individual has freedom to insult the faith of Muslims..." jan23

Markets, war: Brazil, Argentina Holding Talks Over Possible Common Currency, jan23

Media, policy: Liberal Elites Lose It Over Proposed Nantucket Low-Income Housing Project jan23

Liberal elites spend their summers on Nantucket, an isolated island off Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Many year-round residents live in homes worth millions of dollars and are furious about the plans to build an affordable housing complex on the island.

[Surfside Crossing](#) is planning to build 156 homes on a 13-acre affordable housing development has sparked a flurry of lawsuits and protests. A record amount of residents have turned out at hearings to object to the low-income housing development amid the worst affordability crisis for homeownership ever.

Residents claim the new housing development "will damage the environment and strain resources, and that the developers are using the subsidized housing angle to skirt zoning restrictions," according to [The Daily Beast](#).

Meanwhile, the developers say most elite residents are just furious that a low-income housing project will be in their own multi-million backyard.

On an island where some homes are listed for sale between \$30 and +\$50 million, and the median listing home prices are above \$3 million -- it should make sense why residents don't want these affordable homes priced between \$261,000 and \$373,000.

Tucker Holland, the town's housing director, said it was "the biggest controversy that I can recall in recent years."

Meghan Perry, a year-round resident and opponent of the low-income housing project, said:

"I think the developers underestimated our community."

However, the rich liberals don't want the working poor in their backyards. These workers clean their [rich people] pools, mow their grass, police their neighborhoods, and serve them food -- are forced to live off the island and commute to work because of affordability housing woes.

Residents, such as Perry, claim the low-income development isn't a case of NIMBY-ism but instead about protecting the environment.

She added: "It's going to weaken our infrastructure, it's going to put our first responders at risk, it's going to put the community at risk."

The Daily Beast said residents are slamming the low-income development with lawsuits at every avenue they can get:

The Housing Appeals Committee gave Surfside Crossing its final seal of approval in September 2022, but the fight didn't stop there. Less than a month later, the developers were hit with three lawsuits challenging the decision, including a filing from the nonprofit Nantucket Land Council that claimed the construction would threaten its work on behalf of public lands.

And about a 1.5-hour ferry ride away is another liberal enclave of elites in Martha's Vineyard -- where National Guard units were called in last fall to [transport dozens of migrants](#) out of the town.

A pattern is emerging of NIMBY-ism in elite liberal New England towns. These are examples of hypocrisy at its finest.

War: Poland's deputy foreign minister: "Germany will be completely isolated if it does not give in and hand over the tanks," ; Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki on Monday confirmed that his country is about to seek formal permission from the German government to send Leopard main battle tanks to Ukraine jan23

Poland Seeking Permission To Send Ukraine Leopard Tanks While Warning Germany Faces "Isolation"

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Monday mocked the clear "anxiety" and "legal balancing act" on display

"This whole legal balancing act that we see now, and the exchange of statements between European capital cities... European capitals, including Warsaw, are now threatening Berlin with international exclusion and much more," he [said](#). "All this suggests that anxiety among the members of the alliance is increasing all the time, keeps growing. But here, of course, all the countries that are directly or indirectly involved in pumping weapons and in raising the technological sophistication of Ukraine, they are all responsible for this in one way or another," the Kremlin spokesman added, according to TASS.

The Kremlin later in the day added...

POLAND MUST ENSURE CHANCELLOR BACKS GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY BEFORE EXPORTING LEOPARD TANKS TO UKRAINE -TASS QUOTES PUTIN SPOKESMAN

War: Top FBI 'Russiagate' Official Arrested For Colluding With Russian Oligarch: DOJ jan23


Censorship, sick, stats, journal: literal definition of an abomination wins beauty pageant as virtue signaling LGBTQ trend infects every faucet of society

November 10, 2022 8:52 am by IWB3

Sharing is Caring!

Libs of TikTok @libsoftiktok · Follow

A biological male won "Miss Greater Derry" which is a beauty pageant in New Hampshire under the "Miss America" organization.



12:16 PM · Nov 9, 2022

38K Reply Share

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- Do You Know What Happened in France Today?
- The First Rule of Sudden Death Club is You Don't Talk About Sudden Death Club
- Vaccinated YouTube Content Creator "Physics Girl" Provides an Update on Her Health: "Today I can't shower standing up..."
- Pay Close Attention to Everyone Who's Going to Bat for Shapiro and the Daily Wire
- Global DE-DOLLARIZATION is on the way as world's central banks buy gold at fastest pace in 55 years
- Scott Adams: "The anti-vaxxers clearly won, you're the winners!"

Windows taskbar: Type here to search, 12:58 PM 1/20/2023, Rain off and on

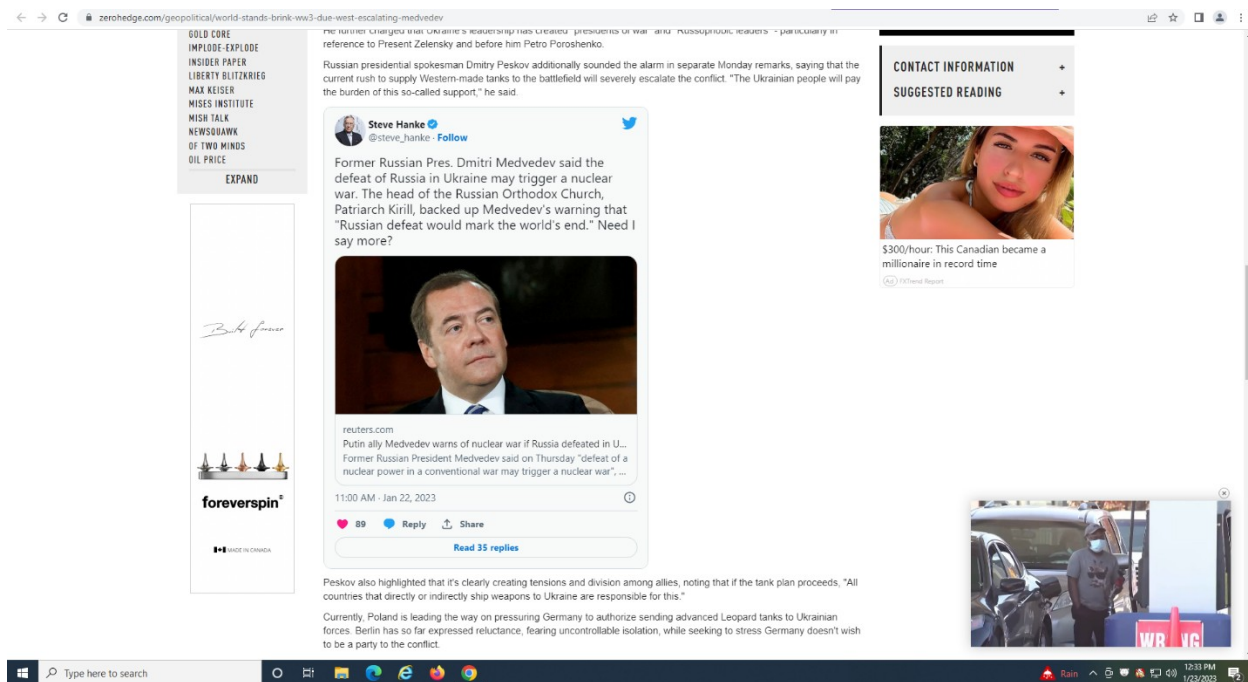
Markets: The Retail Exodus Continues: Nike's Flagship Store Closes In Seattle After 26 Years jan23

Markets: missed this: european market start with best open ever due to cancelled putin's winter, china reopening early, and also slowed inflation, but that's still yet to be settled, as we still don't know the full impact of slowing inflation yet. Yes, inflation is slowing, but it's still sustained record levels for a long time.jan23



War: [jan23](#) World On Brink Of WW3 Due To West Escalating, Medvedev Warns; "The world has come close to the threat of World War III due to impending US aggression against the Russian Federation," Medvedev said in comments first reported by Sky News Arabia; "There are no conditions for negotiations between Russia and Ukraine now, either de facto or de jure," Medvedev said.

Days after he [warned](#) NATO of the likelihood of nuclear war if Russia is defeated in Ukraine, former Russian president and current deputy chairman of the security council Dmitry Medvedev on Monday said the world stands **on the brink of World War III due to US and Western aggression against Russia.**



Markets, crypto: Cashless Society: Big Banks Prepare To Launch Digital Wallet To Compete With Apple Pay And PayPal jan23

Instead, the new digital wallet is to be run by Early Warning Services (EWS), which is firm owned by banks and currently operates the Zelle

EWS says the as-yet unnamed new wallet will be separate from Zelle.

Unnamed sources say that the new wallet is also intended to compete with PayPal. It is being built in order to prevent banks ceding customer relationships to big tech, like Apple.

It's also a move to cut down on fraud, which Zelle [has reportedly](#) been prone to. A plan to extend Zelle into online purchases was cancelled over fraud and disputed transactions.

It's also a move to cut down on fraud, which Zelle [has reportedly](#) been prone to. A plan to extend Zelle into online purchases was cancelled over fraud and disputed transactions.

Recall the [pivot toward a cashless society](#) was clear as day. Perhaps the coin shortage during the pandemic was a test run. And anyone who dared mention a looming [cashless society was deemed](#) a 'conspiracy theorist.'

Just remember who is also shaping the world and influencing politicians and corporations away from a cash economy:

The dystopic view is that a cashless society could mean governments and corporations will have even more control over our wallets -- and that's frightening.

Markets: Deutsche Bank To Cut Investment Banking Bonuses By 40% jan23

Health, vaccine: 'Dilbert' Creator Scott Adams Admits Vax Critics Were Right, Still Doesn't Get Why jan23

Censorship, media: Musk's Father: "I'm Really Afraid Something Might Happen To Elon" jan23

War: jan23 just saving the whole page today. so much going on. we've reached a crescendo. too obvious ukraine be being used as a pawn. i saw ukrainian woman in bus terminal last night crying openly on the pphone. dont usually see people crying on the phone.

Daily

[Pressure Mounts on Germany to Disclose Nord Stream Findings](#)

US Extends 101st Deployment in SE Romania

[Nations Push to Break German Stalemate Over Tanks to Ukraine](#)

[Russia Official: Western Support for Ukraine Could Bring 'Catastrophe'](#)

130,000 Israelis Protest Govt's Anti-Democratic Reforms

[Netanyahu Removes Senior Minister Deri After Supreme Court Ruling](#)

[Saudi Arabia Won't Normalize Israel Ties Until Palestinian Statehood](#)

US Military Says 30 Al-Shabaab Killed in Somalia Airstrike

Multiple Drone Attack Hits US Base in Southern Syria

[Britain's Former PM Boris Johnson Visits Kyiv, Pledges Help](#)

[Germany and France Vow Support for Ukraine, Including Military](#)

[AWOL Navy SEAL Killed Fighting in Ukraine](#)

[Russia Increases Shelling in Regions Outside Ukraine's Donbas: Official](#)

[Russia Claims More Progress in Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia Region](#)

[US Requests Forces in South Korea Provide Equipment to Ukraine](#)

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Tanks for Ukraine?

[Poland Ready to Build 'Smaller Coalition' to Send Tanks to Ukraine Without Germany](#)

[Germany Would Not Block Poland From Sending Tanks to Ukraine: German Minister](#)

[Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania Urge Germany to Send Tanks to Ukraine](#)

[American Lawmakers Urge US to Ship Abrams Tanks to Ukraine](#)
[Macron 'Does Not Rule Out'](#)

[Sending Leclerc Battle Tanks to Ukraine](#)
[UK Says It Still Wants Ukraine to Get German-Made Tanks](#)

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[US Targets Russian Private Military Group Wagner for Sanctions for Fighting in Ukraine](#)
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[Russian Envoy Says US 'Secretly Supports' Armed Groups in Afghanistan](#)
[UN Envoy Says 'Progress' Made on Afghan Women's Rights](#)

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[Zardari: Pakistan 'Not Interested' in Cross-Border Operation in Afghanistan](#)

[Pakistan Will Purchase Russian Oil Despite Western Threats of Sanctions](#)

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[Turkmenistan's President Appoints His Father to Powerful Post](#)

Burkina Faso

[Burkina Faso Demands Departure of French Troops](#)
[Macron Wants Burkina Faso 'Clarifications' on Call for French Troops to Leave](#)
[Kidnapped Women and Children Freed in Burkina Faso](#)

Egypt

[Egypt Meat Prices Skyrocket 25% as Inflation Surges](#)
[Egyptian Pound Added to Russian Exchange Rate List in Bid to Facilitate Trade](#)

Tunisia

[Opposition Party Leader Rejects Foreign Intervention in Tunisia Crisis](#)
[Tunisia Man Sets Himself Alight Over Living Conditions](#)

Africa

[US Ambassador Heading to Africa as Part of Biden's Big Push](#)
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[At least Five Killed in Bomb, Gun Attack in Mogadishu](#)

Iran

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[Iran Condemns EU Vote Over
'Terrorist' Designation for IRGC](#)

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Quran-Burning in Sweden](#)
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[Iraq Daily Roundup: 11 Killed](#)
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Decisions to Stabilize Dinar Value](#)
[US Dollar-Smuggling Crackdown
Leaves Baghdad Struggling to
Pay Wages](#)
[Iraq Urges 'Urgent' Probe After
Five Citizens Shot and Killed
While on Trip to Turkey](#)

Syria

[Kurdish Delegation Leaves
Damascus on 'Positive' Note](#)
[US Military Says It Captured Two
ISIS Members in Syria](#)
[Syrian Democratic Forces
Bombards Turkish Base as
Opposition Infighting Escalates](#)
[Saudi Goods Allowed in Syria
After 11 Years of Trade Ban](#)
[Canada to Repatriate 23 Citizens
From US-Controlled Syrian Camp](#)
[Mother of Detained Man Hails](#)

['Rights Victory' as Canadians to Be Repatriated From Syria](#)

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[UN Needs More Funds to Remove Oil Tanker Moored Off Yemen's Coast](#)
[Explosion Kills Two Govt Soldiers in Yemen's Oil-Rich Shabwa](#)

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[Kuwait Signs \\$370m Agreement With Turkey for Bayraktar Drones](#)
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[Tourists Evacuated After Peru Closes Machu Picchu Amid Protests](#)
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[Brazilian Defense Minister: Military Had No Direct Role in Riots](#)
[Brazil's Lula Fires Army Chief in Wake of Pro-Bolsonaro Riots](#)

The War at Home

[Watch: Belmarsh Tribunal on Assange Comes to Washington](#)
[NYPD Use 9/11 Terror Law to Pursue a Suspect Overseas](#)
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Oceania

[Chris Hipkins Confirmed as New Zealand's Next Prime Minister](#)
[Australia Buys 'Potent and Powerful' Sea Mines to Deter China](#)

War, erdogan: Turkish Muslims protest Quran-burning in Sweden jan23

Outrage over a [Quran-burning protest in Sweden](#) produced a second day of protests in Turkey, reflecting tensions between the two countries.

Some 250 people gathered outside the Swedish Consulate in Istanbul, where a photo of Danish anti-Islam activist Rasmus Paludan was set on fire. Paludan burned Islam's holy book outside the Turkish Embassy in Stockholm on Saturday, sparking protests in Istanbul and Ankara that night.

Participants in Sunday's event carried green flags featuring the Islamic proclamation of faith and banner that said "We condemn Sweden's state-supported Islamophobia." A sign on a window of the Swedish Consulate read, "We do not share that book-burning idiot's view."

The protests have renewed concerns about Turkey holding up Sweden and Finland's bid to join NATO. Turkey has not yet ratified the Nordic nations' memberships in the military alliance, saying Sweden needs to address Ankara's security concerns.

Turkish officials slammed Sweden for allowing the Quran-burning protest but President Recep Tayyip Erdogan did not comment on it during his weekend speeches.

Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson tweeted late Saturday that freedom of expression was crucial to democracy but added that "what is legal is not necessarily appropriate."

"BURNING BOOKS THAT ARE HOLY TO MANY IS A DEEPLY DISRESPECTFUL ACT. I WANT TO EXPRESS MY SYMPATHY FOR ALL MUSLIMS WHO ARE OFFENDED BY WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN STOCKHOLM TODAY," KRISTERSSON SAID.

MUSTAFA DEMIRCAN, ONE OF THE PEOPLE PROTESTING IN ISTANBUL ON SUNDAY, SAID THE ACT OF BURNING THE QURAN SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AN ACT PROTECTED BY THE RIGHT OF FREE EXPRESSION.

PROTESTERS ALSO GATHERED OUTSIDE THE SWEDISH EMBASSY IN ANKARA FOR A SECOND DAY. IN SOUTHEASTERN SANLIURFA PROVINCE, MEN HELD THE QURAN HIGH AFTER PRAYERS IN A MOSQUE AND CHANTED "GOD IS GREAT" IN VIDEOS SHARED ONLINE. MORE PROTESTS WERE PLANNED FOR SUNDAY EVENING.

Rasmus Paludan, a Swedish-Danish politician who leads the right-wing Hard Line party, obtained permission to stage a demonstration outside the Turkish embassy in the Swedish capital, where he said he intended to "burn the Quran".

The protest went ahead as planned later on Saturday under heavy police protection, according to an AFP journalist.

Around 100 people - including a large number of journalists - gathered near the Turkish embassy in Stockholm.

Islamophobia levels in Europe a concern despite acquittal, Muslim academic warns

[**Read More »**](#)

Paludan set fire to the holy book with a lighter following a long diatribe of almost an hour in which he attacked Islam and immigration in Sweden.

"If you don't think there should be freedom of expression, you have to live somewhere else," he said.

Swedish Foreign Minister Tobias Billstrom said that Islamophobic provocations were appalling.

"Sweden has a far-reaching freedom of expression, but it does not imply that the Swedish government, or myself, support the opinions expressed," [Billstrom said on Twitter](#).

Last year, [violent riots broke out](#) across Sweden after Paludan announced that he would go on a Quran-burning "tour" during the holy month of Ramadan.

Separately, another protest took place on Saturday outside Ankara's embassy in Stockholm against Sweden's efforts to join Nato.

"At this point, Swedish Defence Minister Pal Jonson's visit to Turkey on January 27 has lost its significance and meaning, so we cancelled the visit," his Turkish counterpart, Hulusi Akar, said on Saturday.

'It's a racist action'

[A small pro-Turkish demonstration also took place on the other side of the embassy.](#)

[Turkey's Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu vented fury at Swedish authorities' failure to ban the protest.](#)

["It's a racist action, it's not about freedom of expression," he said.](#)

Muslim children disconsolate as Sweden forces Islamic schools to shut

[Read More »](#)

Turkey's foreign ministry summoned Sweden's ambassador on Friday over the protests.

Jonson said the visit had been postponed in a joint decision with Akar during a meeting in Ramstein, Germany, on Friday.

"Our relations with Turkey are very important to Sweden, and we look forward to continuing the dialogue on common security and defence issues at a later date," he said.

Turkish presidential spokesperson Ibrahim Kalin called the burning of the Quran "a clear crime of hatred".

"Allowing this action despite all our warnings is encouraging hate crimes and Islamophobia," he tweeted. "The attack on sacred values is not freedom but modern barbarism."

Several Arab countries including Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Kuwait denounced the Quran-burning.

"Saudi Arabia calls for spreading the values of dialogue, tolerance, and coexistence, and rejects hatred and extremism," the Saudi Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Tension amid Nato bid

Jonson was invited to Ankara as Stockholm continues to work to overcome Turkey's objections to its bid to join Nato, which requires approval from all 30 member states.

Sweden and Finland, which have long maintained neutrality and military non-alignment, sought to join the alliance following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Turkey has stalled the two countries' requests over accusations that they are providing a safe haven to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) and other groups linked to them.

Last week, Swedish officials said they [needed more time](#) to codify laws that would satisfy Ankara's conditions.

The proposed amendments would empower the Swedish government to crack down on recruitment, financing and activities of "terrorist organisations" such as the PKK, which has waged decades long warfare against the Turkish government over Kurdish rights.

Turkey, the EU and the US have designated the PKK as a terror group due to its attacks against civilian targets.

Earlier this month, Ankara said it expected firm action after an incident in Stockholm in which an effigy of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was strung up by its feet.

Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson told broadcaster TV4 that the act was "extremely serious" and he considered it a sabotage against the Nato application.

War: As of January 2021, the estimated total population of the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol was at 2,416,856; 68% Russian jan23

One Year After Russia Annexed Crimea, Locals Prefer Moscow To Kiev

Little has changed over the last 12 months. Despite huge efforts on the part of Kiev, Brussels, [Washington](#) and the Organization for [Security](#) and Cooperation in [Europe](#), the bulk of humanity living on the Black Sea peninsula believe the referendum to secede from Ukraine was legit. At some point, the West will have to recognize Crimea's right to self rule. Unless we are all to believe that the locals polled by Gallup and GfK were done so with FSB bogey men standing by with guns in their hands.

This week, the State Department's press secretary Jen Psaki said sanctions on Russia will continue until Crimea is returned to Ukraine. Both the State Department and Treasury Department did not clarify whether that was an actual policy statement, nor whether that included the sectoral sanctions which were applied in

a third round of sanctions last July following the downing of Malaysian flight MH17 over east Ukraine.


A survey of residents of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in May 2013 found that: [\[28\]](#)

- 58% Orthodox
- 15% Muslim
- 13% Do not know, or not applicable
- 10% believed in God but did not belong to any religion
- 2% Atheist
- 2% Other

will not happen in the future, *even though you keep doing things to make it increasingly likely*, is just being a fucking idiot. It's like Wile E Coyote jumping up and down on the land mine until it explodes because it didn't explode when the Roadrunner ran over it.

Branko Marcetic
@BMarchelich

Insanely reckless from the Biden administration, and yet more signs we're barreling into something disastrous. Numerous experts have said putting Russian control of Crimea in danger may be the most likely scenario for nuclear escalation.



nytimes.com
U.S. Warns to Helping Ukraine Target Crimea
The Biden administration is considering the argument that Kyiv needs the power to strike at the Ukrainian peninsula annexed by Russia in 2014.
9:13 PM · Jan 18, 2023
276 Likes 82 Retweets

Moscow considers Crimea to be Russian. A year after Russia's 2014 annexation, western sources acknowledged that Crimeans feel the same way. But it's actually immaterial whether you agree with Moscow or with the

War, Erdogan: jan23 Turkey Cancels Swedish Defense Minister's Visit Over Decision to Allow Protests

[War, iran, policy: jan23](#) **Iran Condemns EU Vote Over 'Terrorist' Designation for IRGC**

[Iran, war, markets: jan23](#) **Iran's Currency Hits Record Low Amid Tensions With the West**

[War: jan23](#) - **Former British Prime Minister Boris Johnson visited Kyiv on a surprise trip on Sunday, meeting President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and pledging that Britain would "stick by Ukraine as long as it takes".**

During his trip, Johnson visited Borodyanka and Bucha, the suburbs of the Ukrainian capital that became a byword for atrocities in the West when Russian forces drove towards Kyiv in the first phase of the invasion before being repelled.

"I can tell you that the UK will be sticking by Ukraine for as long as it takes," Johnson told the mayor of Bucha.

"You're going to win and you're going to get all the Russians out of your country, but we will be there for the long-term. And we will also want to be helping you to reconstruct," he said speaking through an interpreter.

In Kyiv, Johnson was personally welcomed by Zelenskiy and a row of top officials including the foreign minister and the head of the president's office who lined up in a yard near the presidential administration in the heart of the city.

Last week Britain said it would supply Ukraine with 14 Challenger 2 tanks and other heavy weaponry.

[War, germany: Allies Angry At German 'Indecision' On Tanks For Ukraine Amid Russian Gains In East & South jan22](#)

Latvia's foreign minister Edgars Rinkēvičs, [announced](#) the morning after officials failed to reach an agreement that his country alongside Estonia "call on Germany to provide Leopard tanks to Ukraine now. This is needed to stop Russian

aggression, help Ukraine and restore peace in Europe quickly. **Germany as the leading European power has special responsibility in this regard.**"

Several NATO countries have been on standby after expressing willingness to send the highly sophisticated German-made Leopard tanks to Ukraine, namely, Poland, Denmark and Finland - but Berlin has to sign off on it first.

Neither Washington nor Berlin are ready to take the lead on this, with Germany's new defense minister Boris Pistorius having stressed following the meeting that "**we have to be careful** because we have a duty to look carefully and intensively at **what might be the consequences** for anybody in that conflict."

Poland too is said to be waiting impatiently. "Poland's Defense Ministry did not immediately confirm Reznikov's assertion, but **Polish officials have been among the most vociferous** voices urging Germany to clear the way for Leopards," [according](#) to one US media report. "The Polish government has said it stands ready to send some of its own, though legally it needs Germany to sign off on any such move."

The reference was to Ukrainian defense minister Oleksii Reznikov's earlier assertion "Countries that already have Leopard tanks can begin training missions for our tank crews" **inside Poland**. "We will start with that, and we will go from there." But the Polish government didn't confirm this plan.

President Zelensky's office has been scathing in its critique of Germany and US slowness to move on the issue, with presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak saying "indecision is killing more of our people."

*"You'll help Ukraine with the necessary weapons anyway and realize that there is no other option to end the war," he said on Twitter, adding: **"Every day of delay is the death of Ukrainians. Think faster."***

German parliamentarian [@SevimDagdelen](#) on US pressuring Germany to send tanks to Ukraine, while the US refuses to do the same: the US is seeking "to prevent cooperation between Germany and Russia forever." <https://t.co/QmgUFcCr0X>

— Aaron Maté (@aaronjmate) [January 19, 2023](#)

Zelensky in a weekend address said: "We will still have to fight for the supply of modern tanks, but every day we make it more obvious there is no alternative to making the decision on tanks." He then said, "The only thing worth emphasizing is the time, the delivery time. Each agreement must be implemented as quickly as possible."

Russia, meanwhile, [continues to make gains in the east and south of Ukraine](#). Referencing the Zaporizhzhia region, the defense ministry cited "advantageous positions" in a Saturday statement. "As a result of offensive operations, units of the Eastern Military District took more advantageous lines and positions," it said.

According to a summary of recent advances in [Newsweek](#), "The reported ramped up fighting in Zaporizhzhia came as Russian and Wagner Group forces claim to be making gains in Eastern Donetsk, where Russia has been conducting a monthslong and grinding fight to capture the Ukrainian-controlled city of Bakhmut."

And further, "The Wagner Group's chief, Russian President Vladimir Putin's ally Yevgeny Prigozhin, [announced](#) Thursday on Telegram that his forces had taken full control of the village of Klishchiivka just south of Bakhmut."

War: jan22 Zaporizhzhia fighting ramps up

The screenshot shows a Google search for 'Zaporizhzhia'. The top section includes a brief description: '11 hours ago — Zaporizhzhia Oblast also referred to as Zaporizhzhia (Ukrainian: Запорізька) is an oblast (province) of southeast Ukraine. Its capital is Zaporizhzhia. Cities (total): 14. Country: Ukraine. Raions: 5.' Below this, there are 'Top stories' from various news outlets like The Moscow Times, Al Jazeera, and Reuters, all reporting on Russian advances in the region. To the right, a detailed information box for Zaporizhzhia is visible, including its location on the Dnieper River, population (746,749), weather (1°C), and a list of colleges and universities. The bottom of the image shows a Windows taskbar with the search bar and several open browser windows.

Censorship, stats, markets: it's not capitalism...it hasn't been for a long time, and anybody in the know would've been aware of this.

From 2009 to 2020, Fannie and Freddie's annual share of the total MBS market averaged 70 percent. If we include Ginnie Mae

So it seems like a good time to point out, [once again](#), that Fannie and Freddie have done nothing to provide a durable increase in the U.S. homeownership rate. The [starting point](#) for this evidence is 1970.

Freddie Mac was created in 1970 and, at that time, was tied to the (soon to implode) Savings & Loan industry. Fannie Mae completed its transition to a GSE in 1970. Prior the start of this transition (in 1968), Fannie exclusively purchased federally insured mortgages, a function that was spun off to Ginnie Mae.

According to the Census Bureau, the homeownership [rate was](#) 64 percent in 1970. That's basically where it hovered for most of the 1980s and 1990s, higher than where [it bottomed out](#) in 2016, and almost exactly [where it stood](#) in the middle of 2019. (For anyone interested, evidence also shows that the federal backing of mortgages was [not the major driver](#) in the homeownership rate bump between 1940 and 1960).

The evidence is clear. Fannie and Freddie (along with the FHA) [have helped fuel more mortgage debt](#), with less equity, for [higher-priced homes](#). These policies have been [particularly harmful for low-income families](#).

Naturally, you will not hear this sort of talk from trade groups such as the National Association of Realtors (NAR), or anyone else pushing for an explicit federal backstop for the MBS market.

The NAR's Bernard Fulton, for example, [recently argued](#) that Fannie and Freddie are "absolutely critical to the homeownership rate in America, and the job creation that supports," adding that "Without them, our market is significantly smaller, maybe catastrophically smaller for some businesses."

Urban's Jim Parrott and Moody's Mark Zandi have relied on similar fears. They [have argued](#), for instance, that shrinking the mortgage giants' footprint or fully privatizing them would mean that "the housing and mortgage markets, and by extension the broader economy, could face significant disruption."

Oddly enough, even the types of reform proposals that [Zandi has supported in the past](#) – those that include explicit federal guarantees for the MBS market – assumed that “between a third and half of all mortgage loans will be covered by this catastrophic government backstop.”

There simply is no way to implement such a proposal without shrinking the GSEs’ footprint, but nobody in the Biden administration appears in a hurry to go that route. Nonetheless, *any* reform proposal will have to shrink the GSEs’ market share if it is to adhere to federal law.

One of the only silver linings in the GSEs’ lengthy conservatorship is that any *willing* administration can shrink their footprint. All Americans need now is an administration willing to complete the task.

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<https://www.ft.com/content/2a2ac3f8-c263-4753-ab70-799318a979e3>

More than a decade after the Bank of Japan decided to buy up exchange traded funds as part of an ambitious quantitative easing programme it owns 63 per cent of all locally listed ETF assets, data for the year to July show. While the proportion is higher than the 58 per cent ownership recorded last year by ETFGI, a data provider, it is a reduction on the peak of nearly 77 per cent reached in 2017. Despite some fluctuations, however, one of the anomalies of the Japan ETF market is that the central bank has owned far more than 50 per cent of all Japanese ETF assets since 2016 — a fact that has drawn much scrutiny. One academic study, for example, found that afternoon returns of component stocks of the Nikkei 225 blue-chip index were significantly higher than those of non-Nikkei 225 stocks when the BoJ purchased ETFs. However, another study has suggested that the BoJ, as a large buy-and-hold equity ETF investor

that participates in securities lending, has served to stabilise the stock market without causing strong distortions, despite the fact that the purchases have made it a significant owner of Japan's largest listed companies. "The BoJ owning ETFs has provided additional credibility for ETFs in Japan and globally," said Deborah Fuhr, founder of ETFGI. "With larger assets the annual fees on ETFs can be lower," she added. Whether the huge presence of the central bank is seen as a positive or negative factor, however, the greatest question it casts over the market is the possibility that it will one day seek to unwind its positions.

Vail pointed out that the ETF programme had proved extremely profitable for the BoJ, both in terms of the dividend yield and long-term capital gains, and that the programme had not attracted any criticism from global central banks. "The ETF programme is likely far from the first aspect of any potential monetary tightening, which we do not foresee anyway for this year or perhaps for an extended period," Vail said.

The New York Fed purchases agency mortgage-backed securities (MBS) guaranteed by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, or Ginnie Mae for the System Open Market Account (SOMA) portfolio as directed by the [Federal Open Market Committee \(FOMC\)](#).

Operation results include all outright purchases and sales, dollar rolls and coupon swaps of agency MBS, including [small value exercises](#).

Note: For TBA operations conducted after May 1st 2019, FNCL and FNCL tickers denote 30-year and 15-year Uniform MBS (UMBS) TBA contracts, respectively.

read later

<https://mises.org/wire/six-graphs-showing-just-how-much-government-has-grown>

war, vaccine, censorship: jan22 elon, the king of esg and renewable energy, seems to also be playing into this whole antivax narrative: "“Felt like I was dying for several days. Hopefully, no permanent damage, but I don't know.” Elon Musk Reveals "Major Side Effects" After 2nd COVID Booster

policy: "The union membership rate of public-sector workers (33.1 percent) continued to be more than five times higher than the rate of private-sector workers (6.0 percent), BLS,
Thursday, January 19, 2023

blsdotgov/news.release/union2.nr0.htm

history, fall of rome: In 711, a Muslim army conquered the Visigothic Kingdom in Hispania. Under Tariq ibn Ziyad, the Islamic army landed at Gibraltar and, in an eight-year campaign, occupied all except the northern kingdoms of the Iberian Peninsula in the Umayyad conquest of Hispania. is the Arabic name given to Muslim Iberia. The Muslim conquerors were Arabs and Berbers; following the conquest, conversion and arabization of the Hispano-Roman population took place, a long process, spurred on in the 9th and 10th centuries, the majority of the population in Al-Andalus eventually converted to Islam.[43] The Muslims were referred to by the generic name Moors

The Muslim population was divided per ethnicity (Arabs, Berbers, Muladí), and the supremacy of Arabs over the rest of group was a recurrent causal for strife, rivalry and hatred, particularly between Arabs and Berbers.^[45] Arab elites could be further divided in the Yemenites (first wave) and the Syrians (second wave).^[46] Christians and Jews were allowed to live as part of a stratified society under the *dhimmah system*,^[47] although Jews became very important in certain fields.^[48] Some Christians migrated to the Northern Christian kingdoms, while those who stayed in Al-Andalus progressively arabised and became known as *musta'arab* (*mozarabs*).^[49] The slave population comprised the *Saqāliba* (literally meaning "slavs", although they were slaves of generic European origin) as well as *Sudanese* slaves.^[50]

Al-Andalus became a center of culture and learning, especially during the [Caliphate of Córdoba](#). The Caliphate reached the height of its power under the rule of [Abd-ar-](#)

[Rahman III](#) and his successor [al-Hakam II](#), becoming then, in the view of [Jaime Vicens Vives](#), "the most powerful state in Europe".^[53] Abd-ar-Rahman III also managed to expand the clout of Al-Andalus across the Strait of Gibraltar,^[53] waging war, as well as his successor, against the [Fatimid Empire](#).^[54]

History, jews: **Massacre of 1391, considered one of the worst killings of jews in european history**

The **Massacre of 1391**, also known as **the pogroms of 1391**, was a display of [antisemitism](#) and violence against [Jews in Spain](#). It was one of the Middle Ages' worst antisemitic outbreaks; Jews were ultimately given the choice of [converting or leaving Spain in 1492](#).^[1] Jews in the Iberian Peninsula at this time were generally disliked, and violence against them was common even until the 15th century.^[2] The year 1391, however, marked a peak of anti-Jewish violence.^[2]

Attitudes toward Jews in the 1300s^[edit]

In the years leading up to the Massacre of 1391, Jews were not particularly liked by the [Catholic](#) church because they were believed to have crucified the Christ. However, there was tolerance as they were under the protection of Spain and had crucial roles in banking and finance that made them a financial asset.^[3] In the early fourteenth century (1311-12) the general council of [Vienne](#) met and decided to censor the Moors' religious freedoms, and some would claim that the general council became aware of what their neighbors thought of their tolerance of Jews, and therefore returned to Spain with a newfound goal to damage the peaceful tolerance among Jews, [Moors](#), and larger Spanish population.^[3] However, while it is likely that this inspired ill feelings towards Jews, there was no drastic result because of the current [tax](#) on the Jewish people which contributed greatly to the kingdom and the church. Thus, Jews were too much of an economic asset to be violently discriminated against.^[3]

Violence in the early 1300s^[edit]

[Peter \(Pedro\) I](#) (known by his enemies as Peter the Cruel) was the king of [Castile](#) from 1350 to 1365.^[2] Unlike the norm of abusing Jews financially, Peter was sympathetic to them.^[2] Some would explain his Jewish sympathy by claiming that he was illegitimately Jewish himself.^[2]

While a rebel against the church, Peter the Cruel had become a sort of protector of Jews against [Henry of Trastamara](#), his half-brother.^[3] Henry had killed around 1,200 Jews in 1355, ordered a Jewish massacre in 1360, and was involved in the murder of many other Jews in 1366.^[3] When Peter's half-brother Henry killed him during a battle in a [civil war](#) in 1369, Jews lost their royal protection and became the subject of attacks in Castile.^[2] They also were greatly taxed.^[2] While Henry had criticized his brother for being in support of Jews, he himself became tolerant of them because of the financial burdens placed on them and the services they provided.^[2] Because of Henry's violence toward them, the common people of Spain began to accept this violent antisemitism, but Jews were too important financially to be completely annihilated.^[3]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massacre_of_1391

copyright: sick: "JSTOR told the Chronicle that each and every year, they turn away 150 million attempts to gain access to articles. That's right. 150 million attempts! "(i try to read their stuff all the time, and it always seems to be something really important, too)

theatlanticdotcom/technology/archive/2012/01/every-year-jstor-turns-away-150-million-attempts-to-read-journal-articles/251382/

https://www.reddit.com/r/Piracy/comments/xjynxo/i_have_unlimited_access_to_jstor_how_can_i/

In late 2010 and early 2011, [Aaron Swartz](#), an American computer programmer, writer, political organizer and Internet activist, used [MIT](#)'s data network to bulk-download a substantial portion of JSTOR's collection of academic journal articles.^{[23][24]} When the bulk-download was discovered, a video camera was placed in the room to film the mysterious visitor and the relevant computer was left untouched. Once video was captured of the visitor, the download was stopped and Swartz was identified. Rather than pursue a civil lawsuit against him, in June 2011 JSTOR reached a settlement wherein Swartz surrendered the downloaded data.^{[23][24]}

The following month, federal authorities charged Swartz with several "[data theft](#)"-related crimes, including [wire fraud](#), computer fraud, unlawfully obtaining information from a [protected computer](#), and recklessly damaging a protected computer.^[25]

^[26] Prosecutors in the case claimed that Swartz acted with the intention of making the papers available on [P2P file-sharing sites](#).^{[24][27]}

Swartz surrendered to authorities, pleaded not guilty to all counts, and was released on \$100,000 bail. In September 2012, U.S. attorneys increased the number of charges against Swartz from four to thirteen, with a possible penalty of 35 years in prison and \$1 million in fines.^{[28][29]} The case still was pending when Swartz committed [suicide](#) in January 2013.^[30] Prosecutors dropped the charges after his suicide.^[31]

wiki..

Scientific journals are the ticketmaster of academia. They contribute nothing but sit in between those providing content and those accessing it, siphoning off cash at every point. Peer review is done for free by other academics, institutions pay to publish and then pay *again* to access papers. These papers arrive ready-formatted and can't be edited so no work is required there, and these days they are largely online so the cost of printing volumes as they used to is vastly reduced. They do so little and take so much, all the while blocking public access to knowledge.

Swartz was a martyr, hit with draconian laws designed for acts of terrorism, the US government once again wielding its might to protect the wealth of private interests. Science should be free for all.

https://www.reddit.com/r/Damnthatinteresting/comments/z7leb7/aaron_swartz_cofounder_of_reddit_was_charged_with/

war, history: **Salvadoran Civil War**

the United Nations estimated that FMLN guerrillas were responsible for five percent of atrocities committed during the civil war, while 85 percent were committed by the Salvadoran security forces

The [United Nations](#) (UN) reports that the war killed more than 75,000 people between 1979 and 1992, along with approximately 8,000 disappeared persons. Violations of the most basic human rights – particularly the kidnapping, torture, and murder of suspected FMLN sympathizers by state security forces and paramilitary death squads – were pervasive.^{[31][32][33]}

However, due to pressure from Colonel Gutiérrez Avendaño and the United States to step down, Colonel Majano Ramos resigned from the junta entirely on 13 December 1980, effectively ending the second junta

After the resignation of Majano Ramos on 13 December 1980, the Third Revolutionary Government Junta was formed.^[40] It consisted of the members of the previous junta: Colonel Gutiérrez Avendaño, Duarte, Morales Ehrlich, and Ávalos Navarrete.^[40] Duarte served as the President of the junta while Colonel Gutiérrez Avendaño served as Vice President.^[40] The third junta continued the implementation of the agrarian reforms and promised democratization.^[41] The United States, under President [Ronald Reagan](#), continued economic aid and diplomatic support to the junta.^{[42][43][44]}

The FMLN launched the "[Final Offensive](#)" to overthrow the government and take control of the country on 10 January 1981.^{[14][45]} The junta contained the offensive, and by the end of January, the offensive ended in a strategic failure for the FMLN, but they did prove that they were a capable fighting force.^[14] The junta responded to the offensive by launching their own scorched-earth offensive in March 1981 in northern El Salvador.^[46]

On 17 March 1982, 4 Dutch journalists and 5 FMLN guerrillas [were ambushed](#) by the army near the town of [El Paraíso](#), [Chalatenango](#), with 8 being killed in the attack.^[47] The attack outraged many, especially in the [Netherlands](#), where people demanded the removal of the junta from power.^[48] Duarte stated that it was not an attack but instead simply an accident and that the journalists were caught in the crossfire between army soldiers and FMLN guerrillas.^[48]

From 1979 to 1982, the juntas committed various human rights violations and war crimes. Several [deaths squads and paramilitaries](#) were formed by junta soldiers and officers that attacked leftist militants and civilians.^{[52][53]} Because the death squads were made up of army soldiers and the United States was funding the army, the United States was indirectly funding the death squads as well.^{[52][53]}

The most notorious US-trained army battalion was the [Atlacatl Battalion](#).^[54] The battalion committed two of the deadliest massacres during the civil war: the [El Calabozo massacre](#) and the [El Mozote massacre](#).^{[54][55][56]} Meanwhile, the National Guard, the No. 1

Military Detachment, and paramilitaries that were formerly a part of ORDEN committed the [Sumpul River massacre](#) on the Honduran border.^[57]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolutionary_Government_Junta_of_El_Salvador

The [United Nations](#) (UN) reports that the war killed more than 75,000 people between 1979 and 1992, along with approximately 8,000 disappeared persons. Violations of the most basic human rights – particularly the kidnapping, torture, and murder of suspected FMLN sympathizers by state security forces and paramilitary death squads – were pervasive.^{[31][32][33]}

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/El_Mozote_massacre

With tensions mounting and the country on the verge of an insurrection, the civil-military [Revolutionary Government Junta](#) (JRG) deposed Romero [in a coup on 15 October 1979](#). The United States feared that El Salvador, like Nicaragua and Cuba before it, could fall to communist revolution.^[53] Thus, Jimmy Carter's administration supported the new military government with vigor, hoping to promote stability in the country.^[54] While Carter provided some support to the government, the subsequent administration significantly increased U.S. spending in El Salvador.^[55] By 1984 Ronald Reagan's government would spend nearly \$1 billion on economic aid for the Salvadoran government.^[56]

In February 1980, Archbishop [Óscar Romero](#) published an open letter to US President [Jimmy Carter](#) in which he pleaded with him to suspend the United States' ongoing program of military aid to the Salvadoran regime. He advised Carter that "Political power is in the hands of the armed forces. They know only how to repress the people and defend the interests of the Salvadoran oligarchy." Romero warned that US support would only "sharpen the injustice and [repression](#) against the organizations of the people which repeatedly have been struggling to gain respect for their fundamental human rights".^[72] On 24 March 1980, the Archbishop was assassinated while celebrating Mass, the day after he called upon Salvadoran soldiers and security force members to not follow their orders to kill Salvadoran civilians. President Carter stated this was a "shocking and unconscionable act".^[73] At his funeral a week later, government-sponsored snipers in the National Palace and on the periphery of the Gerardo Barrios Plaza were responsible for the shooting of 42 mourners.^[74]

On 7 May 1980, former army major, [Roberto D'Aubuisson](#), was arrested with a group of civilians and soldiers at a farm. The raiders found documents connecting him and the civilians as organizers and financiers of the death squad who killed Archbishop Romero, and of plotting a *coup d'état* against the JRG. Their arrest provoked right-wing terrorist threats and institutional pressures forcing the JRG to release D'Aubuisson. In 1993, a U.N. investigation confirmed that D'Aubuisson ordered the assassination.^[75]

In its effort to defeat the insurgency, the [Salvadoran Armed Forces](#) carried out a "[scorched earth](#)" strategy, and adopted tactics similar to those being employed in neighboring [Guatemala](#) by its security forces. These tactics were inspired and adapted from U.S. [counterinsurgency](#) strategies used during the [Vietnam War](#).^[82] An integral part of the Salvadoran Army's counterinsurgency strategy entailed "draining the sea" or

"drying up the ocean," that is, eliminating the insurgency by eradicating its support base in the countryside. The primary target was the civilian population – displacing or killing them in order to remove any possible base of support for the rebels. The concept of "draining the sea" had its basis in a doctrine by [Mao Zedong](#) that emphasized that "The guerrilla must move amongst the people as a fish swims in the sea."^[83]

[Aryeh Neier](#), the executive director of [Americas Watch](#), wrote in a 1984 review about the scorched earth approach: "This may be an effective strategy for winning the war. It is, however, a strategy that involves the use of terror tactics—bombings, [strafings](#), shellings and, occasionally, massacres of civilians."^[84]

Beginning in 1984, the [Salvadoran Air Force](#) was able to locate guerrilla strongholds reportedly using intelligence from U.S. Air Force planes flying over the country.^{[85][86]}

Scorched earth offensives of 1981^[edit]

On 15 March 1981, the Salvadoran Army began a "sweep" operation in [Cabañas Department](#) in northern El Salvador near the [Honduran](#) border. The sweep was accompanied by the use of scorched earth tactics by the Salvadoran Army and indiscriminate killings of anyone captured by the army. Those displaced by the "sweep" who were not killed outright fled the advance of the Salvadoran Army; hiding in caves and under trees to evade capture and probable [summary execution](#). On 18 March, three days after the sweep in Cabañas began, 4–8,000 survivors of the sweep (mostly women and children) attempted to cross the [Rio Lempa](#) into Honduras to flee violence. There, they were caught between Salvadoran and Honduran troops. The Salvadoran Air Force, subsequently bombed and strafed the fleeing civilians with [machine gun](#) fire, killing hundreds. Among the dead were at least 189 persons who were unaccounted for and registered as "disappeared" during the operation.^[87]

A second offensive was launched, also in Cabañas Department, on 11 November 1981 in which 1,200 troops were mobilized, including members of the [Atlacatl Battalion](#). Atlacatl was a rapid response [counter-insurgency](#) battalion organized at the U.S. Army [School of the Americas](#) in [Panama](#) in 1980. Atlacatl soldiers were trained and equipped by the U.S. military,^{[88][89]} and were described as "the pride of the United States military team in San Salvador. Trained in antiguerrilla operations, the battalion was intended to turn a losing war around."^[90]

The November 1981 operation was commanded by Lt. Col. [Sigifredo Ochoa](#), a former Treasury Police chief with a reputation for brutality. Ochoa was close associate of Major Roberto D'Aubuisson and was alleged to have been involved in the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero. D'Aubuisson and Ochoa were both members of [La Tandon](#), the class of 1966 at the [Captain General Gerardo Barrios Military School](#).^[91] From the start, the invasion of Cabanas was described as a "cleansing" operation by official sources.^[92] Hundreds of civilians were massacred by the army as Col. Ochoa's troops moved through the villages. Col. Ochoa claimed that hundreds of guerrillas had been killed but was able to show journalists only fifteen captured weapons, half of them virtual antiques, suggesting that most of those killed in the sweep were unarmed.^[93]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salvadoran_Civil_War

censorship, media: **Sci-Hub was founded in Kazakhstan by Alexandra Elbakyan in 2011, in response to the high cost of research papers behind paywalls**

level 2

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Sci-Hub

Sci-Hub is a shadow library website that provides free access to millions of research papers and books, without regard to copyright, by bypassing publishers' paywalls in various ways. Sci-Hub was founded in Kazakhstan by Alexandra Elbakyan in 2011, in response to the high cost of research papers behind paywalls (see Serials crisis). The site is extensively used worldwide. In September 2019, the site's owners said that it served approximately 400,000 requests per day.

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9

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Pirate Party

From Wikipedia:

The court restricted the sites from uploading, publishing or making any article available until 6 January 2021. In response to the lawsuit, as well as to Elbakyan's claim that the FBI had requested data from her Apple account, Reddit users on the subreddit [r/DataHoarder](#) organized to download and seed backups of the articles on Sci-Hub, with the intention of creating a decentralized and uncensorable version of the site.

Looks like you should ask around in [r/datahoarder](#)

The way I see it, that's 150 million chances lost to improve the quality of the Internet. JSTOR, as the keeper of so much great scholarly work, should be one of the Internet's dominant suppliers of facts and serious research. But if something is not publicly

available, key gatekeepers like journalists and Wikipedians, move to the best available source, even if they know that there probably is a better source behind JSTOR's paywall. So, instead, JSTOR's vast troves of valuable information remain within academia and the broader Internet's immune system is that much weaker.

theatlanticdotcom/technology/archive/2012/01/every-year-jstor-turns-away-150-million-attempts-to-read-journal-articles/251382/

"Is JSTOR tiptoeing gingerly toward public access, or making a meaningless gesture to ward off critics? Take your pick."

Vaccine: jan21 "Citigroup to fire unvaccinated employees"

War, censorship: July 2022: German journalist faces three years in jail for Donbas reporting, appaently was reporting on ukrainian atrocities

[By Geeta Mohan](#): German journalist Alina Lipp said she was facing three years in prison in her home country for her reporting on crimes committed by Ukrainian forces against civilians in the eastern Donbass region of the war-ravaged country.

The charges against her relate to coverage of her News from Russia Telegram channel where she shared information with its 175,000 subscribers in both German and Russian.

She explained that she did not misrepresent facts. She just filmed what she saw and does not spread fake information. "Will file a counter case in German courts against action taken by the government," she noted.

She is accused by the German authorities of supporting the Russian invasion of Ukraine and faces three years in prison under article 140 of the constitution or a monetary fine.

Lipp further added, "More and more Germans are now agreeing with her since they are suffering massive price hikes and inflation."

Speaking on the human rights violation issue, she agreed that Germany should not speak of human rights violations in other countries (like India) while they persecute journalists in their own country.

Iran, crypto, markets: Jan 21, 2023 **Iran specifically started to look at bitcoin as an alternative monetary means to be used in trade after it became clear that European companies were failing to trade with Iran over fears that they would fall afoul of US primary sanctions.**

A top Iranian MP says Iran and Russia can use digital currencies to dodge the US sanctions that are to be re-instated against the Islamic Republic.

As Iran is facing the risks of returning US sanctions, one of the country's parliamentarians has raised the idea for Tehran and Moscow to start using digital currencies to dodge the sanctions.

The idea was raised by MP Mohammad-Reza Pourebrahimi during a recent meeting in Moscow with Dmitry Mezentsev, the Chair of the Federation Council Committee on Economic Policy.

Pourebrahimi was quoted by media as saying that digital currencies could provide a way for both Iran and Russia to avoid US dollar transactions, as well as a possible replacement of the SWIFT interbank payment system.

He also added that the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) had been demanded by the Parliament to start developing proposals for using digital currencies.

Pourebrahimi – who chairs the Iranian Parliamentary Commission for Economic Affairs – was further quoted as saying that he had discussed this topic in the State Duma's Committee on Economic Policy and that Iran had established cooperation with Russia on this issue, according to a report by the Russian news portal RBC.

“They [Russia] share our opinion. We said that if we manage to move this work forward, then we will be the first countries that use digital currencies in the exchange of goods,” he said.

In turn, Mezentsev noted that “interbank relations between our countries should be of great importance” against the backdrop of international sanctions currently in place against both Russia and Iran.

The idea to use digital currencies such as bitcoin in international trade emerged in Tehran over the past few years particularly after the country’s officials complained that the US was “terrorizing” companies from doing business with the Islamic Republic.

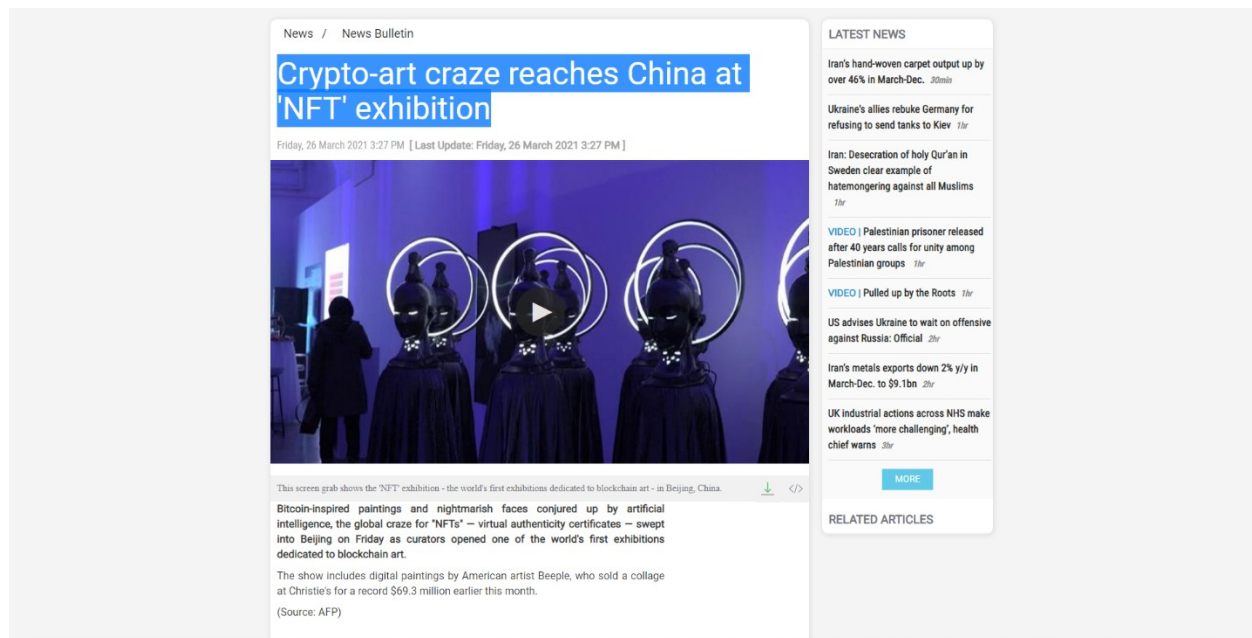
Iran specifically started to look at bitcoin as an alternative monetary means to be used in trade after it became clear that European companies were failing to trade with Iran over fears that they would fall afoul of US primary sanctions.

This was believed to have prevented Iran from reaping the benefits of the removal of sanctions in 2016.

To the same effect, a Swedish firm was reported last March to have come up with an innovative solution which would both help bypass US sanctions against Iran and also enable banks to do away with the need to process transactions with Iran.

The firm - Brave New World Investments AB – was reported to have started accepting deposits in bitcoin which it would convert to Iranian Rial and invest in equities on the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE).

China, crypto, markets: **Crypto-art craze reaches China at 'NFT' exhibition**



Crypto,iran: February 2021:A report by the semi-official Iranian news agency Tasnim estimates that daily trade volume for cryptocurrencies in Iran amounts to nearly \$200 million.

Public interest in cryptocurrencies like bitcoin is booming in Iran as a report estimates that unregulated exchanges are engaged in nearly \$200 million worth of trade for digital currencies everyday.

The Sunday report by the semi-official Iranian news agency Tasnim showed that only a single Iranian trading platform for cryptocurrencies had carried out transactions worth 13.96 trillion rials (nearly \$56 million) over 24 hours of trading for 12 different digital currencies.

The report said the platform, the largest in Iran with a 30-percent share of the market, had 600,000 registered investors.

The Iranian government has yet to recognize cryptocurrencies for local trade and platforms use normal authentication procedures to be able to process transactions.

The Tasnim report said that the number of investors with activity in the local crypto market had exceeded one million, adding that daily trading volume in a total of 20 platforms amounts to 50 trillion rials (\$200 million).

Iran studying various options on official digital currency: CBI chief
[Iran's central bank is studying various strategies on how it can issue an official digital currency.](#)

The report said many of the people engaged in trade for cryptocurrencies were retail investors who have been discouraged by a recent drop in the value of trade in the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE).

It said people were taking the risk of buying a bitcoin to compensate for the losses they have suffered in the TSE, where main index TEDPIX has dropped to 1.22 million points, down from over 2 million recorded in mid-summer.

That comes as the global daily trading volume for cryptocurrencies has reached nearly \$200 billion in a market valued at around \$1.4 trillion where the dominant currency bitcoin has surged to over \$57,000.

More....

The Iranian government has yet to issue a verdict on bitcoin mining which is reportedly mushrooming across the country where subsidized power rates are attracting prospectors from countries as far as China, Ukraine and France.

The electricity-intensive process has recently been blamed for a surge in power consumption which has put the national grid under severe strain amid sizzling summer temperatures.

Saeed Zarandi, the deputy industry, mining and trade minister for planning, said Wednesday several government committees were examining the issue, with a number of ministries and the central bank about to make a final decision.

“With regard to bitcoin, we have to investigate its threats and opportunities and ultimately make an appropriate decision by taking these issues into account,” he told Tasnim news agency.

More...

Reports in local media on Wednesday suggested that the CEO of Tehran’s Stocks Exchange (TSE) had resigned a day after it became known that people had been illegally mining bitcoin in a basement of the TSE’s headquarters in northern Tehran.

According to a report from the country’s state-run media, the Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran Stock Exchange, or TSE, market vice president Mahmoud Goudarzi will be [leading](#) the company following the departure of Sahraee. The change in leadership

seems to be the result of “a number of miners” being discovered in the basement of the TSE building located in the district of Sa'adat Abad.

Jul 10, 2019: Chinese cryptocurrency miners have officially requested to set up shop in Iran, taking advantage of the country's cheap energy.

[Iran faces Chinese request for bitcoin mining - Press TV](https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2019/07/10/Iran-bitc...)

[https://www.presstv.ir > Detail > 2019/07/10 > Iran-bitc...](https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2019/07/10/Iran-bitc...)

Jul 10, 2019 — Chinese cryptocurrency miners have officially requested to set up shop in Iran, taking advantage of the country's cheap energy.

october 24th, 2020: "Iran allows exclusive use of cryptocurrencies to fund imports"

Trading digital currencies like bitcoin became legal after the regulations were [announced](#) in August 2019 although the government has been keeping a cautious eye on the size of the trade and its potential impacts on the financial situation in Iran.

Using cryptocurrencies to fund imports could help the CBI evade restrictions imposed by the United States on Iran's use of the dollar system.

That comes as central banks in countries like China and Russia plan to introduce official cryptocurrencies to boost trade and economic exchanges with the rest of the world.

2019: Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi, Iran's minister for information and communications technology: "“Some of our top clerics have issued fatwas that say Bitcoin is money without a reserve, that it is rejected by Islamic and cybercurrencies are haram,” Jahromi said. “When we explain to them this is not a currency but an asset, they change their mind.”

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/international-business/african-and-mideast-business/article-iranians-turn-to-bitcoin-as-us-sanctions-squeeze-national-economy/>

Alexander Brazhnikov, executive director of the Russian Association of Crypto Industry and Blockchain.

Iran, energy, war: cool image of iranian gas deposits



War, Israel: Abraham Accords saw Israel normalise relations with the UAE, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan, effective since September 15, 2020

Israel's establishment of diplomatic relations with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain marked the first instance of [Arab-Israeli normalization](#) since 1994, when the [Israel-Jordan peace treaty](#) came into effect

In December 2020, Morocco joined the accords and [normalized relations with Israel](#) after the Trump administration recognized Moroccan control over the

disputed [Western Sahara](#) region.^[9] In January 2021, Sudan joined the Abraham Accords and [normalized relations with Israel](#) after the Trump administration agreed to remove Sudan from the [State Department list](#) of "state sponsors of terrorism"^[10] and provide a \$1.2 billion dollar loan to help Sudan clear its debts to the World Bank.^[11]

Among the representatives of the 70 nations in attendance were a number of Arab officials, creating the first situation since the [Madrid Peace Conference in 1991](#) where an Israeli leader and senior Arab officials were all in attendance at the same international conference focused on the Middle East. The Madrid Conference at the time set the stage for the [Oslo Accords](#).

Church, history: common belief of the Abrahamic religions—particularly Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—regarding the role of Abraham as a patriarch.

common belief of the [Abrahamic religions](#)—particularly [Judaism](#), [Christianity](#), and [Islam](#)—regarding the role of [Abraham](#) as a patriarch.

Media, Israel, war, censorship: Jordan Peterson signed up with the Daily Wire and immediately went on a trip to Israel to say it's the greatest country in the world.

798,567 views Jul 12, 2022 I'm very excited to announce that I have joined DailyWire+

Jordan Peterson, the controversial Canadian right-wing media personality and author of *12 Rules for Life*, will be coming to Israel on October 6th for a one-time lecture at Jerusalem's International Convention Center. This will be Peterson's first time in the Jewish state.

"The fact that the event is taking place in Jerusalem carries a deep personal meaning for Peterson and Shapiro, and it also carries a symbolic message,"

Amiad Cohen, co-publisher of the Shibolet Library, and CEO of the Tikva Fund

In July, he sparked backlash after he urged Sunni and Shia Muslims to get pen-pals of the opposite sect and for them to reach out to Christians and Jews to achieve religious coherence in the Middle East and North Africa.

The message was condemned for appearing to ignore the demographics of the region - where Muslims, Christians, and Jews have lived together for centuries - and the [inter-faith dialogue](#) active in the region.

His comment came off the back of the so-called Abraham Accords that saw Israel normalise relations with the UAE, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan - although the accords are commonly thought to be part of a [common strategic vision](#) for the region rather than an ecumenical effort.

forgot this about jordan peterson: "In 2016, the University of Toronto professor declared his opposition to Canada's Bill C-16, which was intended to expand the country's anti-discrimination laws to include "gender identity or expression."

[Censorship, stats, journal, government](#): **This statement from the UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOSE DIVISION is hilarious: "There are not two systems of justice—one for the wealthy and one for the poor—there is one criminal justice system in this country."**

Disgraced Theranos founder Elizabeth Holmes attempted to flee the United States after her January 2022 fraud conviction, prosecutors said in a new [court filing](#).

Home Tools govuscourts.cand... x

5 / 36 170%

7 Court that she became pregnant with her second child between the jury returning a guilty verdict against
 8 her and her sentencing date. While facing these serious felony charges at trial and awaiting the Court's
 9 sentence, Defendant has lived on an estate with reportedly more than \$13,000 in monthly expenses for
 10 upkeep and has conceived two children with her current partner. Defendant continues to show no
 11 remorse to her victims. While the criminal justice system presumes at this point that a criminal
 12 defendant would begin serving his or her custodial sentence, Defendant seeks, instead, to loosen the
 13 restrictions placed on her region of travel based upon vague references to her partner's work
 14 commitments. Defendant, however, cannot meet the stringent standard for release pending appeal
 15 mandated by Congress. There are not two systems of justice—one for the wealthy and one for the
 16 poor—there is one criminal justice system in this country. And under that system, the time has come for
 17 Elizabeth Holmes to answer for her crimes committed nearly a decade ago, as found by a jury made up
 18 of a fair cross section of individuals from this community, and to begin serving the term of
 19 imprisonment imposed by this Court as sufficient but not greater than necessary to account for those
 20 crimes. The government respectfully requests the Court deny Defendant's Motion.

21

BACKGROUND

About 877,000 results (0.41 seconds)

Robert Richards IV was in 2009 convicted of raping his three-year-old daughter, seven years after she, then five, told relatives that she didn't want "my daddy touching me anymore." In an alarming twist, the judge who sentenced the heir to the du Pont fortune let him off with no jail time, arguing that six-foot-four ... Mar 31, 2014

<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/crime>
 Du Pont Heir Gets No Prison Time for Raping 3-Year-Old ...

About featured snippets Feedback

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/denizcam/2019/06/14/>
 How A Du Pont Heir Avoided Jail Time For A Heinous Crime
 Jun 14, 2019 — Robert Richards, an heir to the DuPont company, was convicted of raping his daughter in 2009. He served no jail time, leading many to wonder ...

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_and_sentencing_of_Robert_H._Richards_IV - Wikipedia
 Trial and sentencing of Robert H. Richards IV - Wikipedia
 Robert H. Richards IV (born 1966/1967) is a convicted child rapist and great-grandson of chemical magnate Irénée du Pont and heir to the du Pont family ...

<https://www.nydailynews.com/news/crime/woman-s->
 Du Pont heir dodged prison for raping 3-year-old daughter ...
 Mar 31, 2014 — Robert H. Richards IV, 47, was sentenced to eight years probation after pleading guilty to raping his 3-year-old daughter.

<https://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2014/03/18/>
 Du Pont heir accused of raping 2nd child in lawsuit - USA Today
 Mar 18, 2014 — WILMINGTON, Del. — A du Pont family heir who raped his 3-year-old daughter nearly a decade ago but received no prison time now faces a ...

<https://www.cnn.com/justice/delaware-du-pont-rape-case>
 Du Pont heir convicted of raping daughter spared prison - CNN
 Apr 2, 2014 — Though Robert H. Richards IV was convicted of rape, the wealthy heir to the du Pont family fortune was spared prison by a Delaware court in ...

Type here to search

12:06 PM 1/21/2023

Markets, war: IMF tells zimbabwe, stop using gold, use interest bearing instruments instead"

The International Monetary Fund urged authorities last month to wind down the use of the gold coins and to use appropriate interest-bearing instruments to carry out monetary policy

bnnbloombergdotca/zimbabwe-s-gold-coins-sell-above-2-000-each-for-the-first-time-1.1870740

war: **Viktor Orban is Buckling to EU Sanctions** **jan21**

investmentwatchblogdotcom/viktor-orban-is-buckling-to-eu-sanctions/

vaccine, war, media, censorship: **rasmussen doing poll finally on vaccine adverse reactions: just more evidence that the big one is coming, and that this is just more primer**

The screenshot shows a Twitter interface with a tweet from Rasmussen Reports (@Rasmussen_Poll) dated Jan 20. The tweet discusses a poll question about COVID-19 vaccine side effects. Below the tweet is an 'Answer' section by Simon Collins, which includes a table defining the terms 'Very common', 'Common', 'Uncommon', 'Rare', and 'Very rare' based on numerical and percentage rates. The table is as follows:

Term	Numerical rate	Percentage rate
Very common	More than 1 in 10	10% or higher
Common	1 in 10 – 1 in 100	10% – 1%
Uncommon	1 in 100 – 1 in 1000	0.1% to 1%

The 'Rare' category is highlighted in the original image, defined as 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 1,000 people, or a risk of 0.01% to 0.1%.

Below the table, another tweet from Rasmussen Reports dated Jan 16 is visible, discussing public opinion about COVID vaccine deaths and side effects.

Censorship, stats, journal, tech, war: **google now says men can menstruate (REAL)**

10:04



Google

Sign in



can men mentrate



Images



News



Shopping



Videos

Showing results for **can men *menstruate***

Search instead for **can men mentrate**

Having a period is not a feminine thing, and **people of all genders menstruate**, including non-binary people, agender people and even plenty of men! Menstruation doesn't change anything about your gender, it's just a thing that some bodies do.



<https://www.transhub.org.au> › mens...



Menstruation - TransHub



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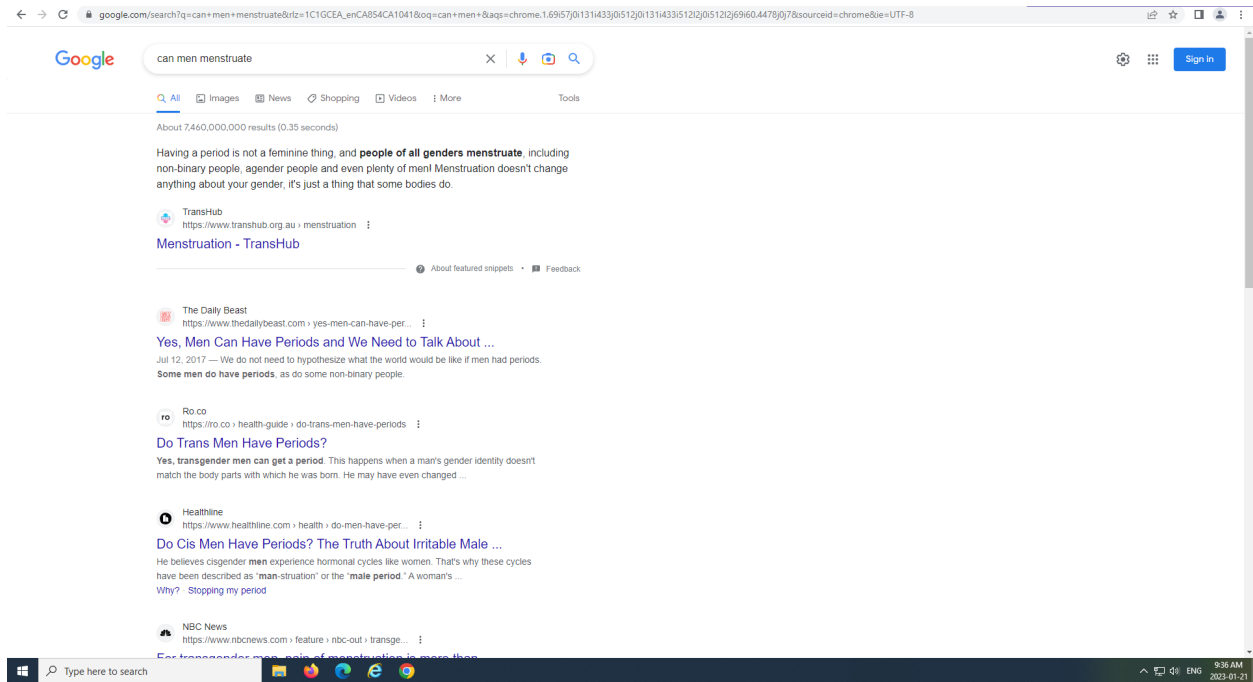
can men mentrate



At first, I didn't think this was real?

Google saying men can menstruate? No, way!! That can't be true!

But after finally looking it, I was shocked to see that no, it wasn't fake at all, and yes, the largest search engine in the world was placing at the top of its page, for every man, woman, and child of our entire generation to see, that men actually can (and not, can't) menstruate.



This is world we live in folks!

Just a quick FYI: **Men CAN'T menstruate!!**

Where is it coming from??!

What hole?!

WHAT HOLE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!??

Censorship, tech: Facebook And Instagram Could Soon Allow Transgender And Non-Binary People To Show Their Breasts

Regardless, Meta's Oversight Board, which the company refers to as its "Supreme Court" for moderation and censorship policies, ordered both Facebook

and Instagram to "[lift a ban](#) on images of topless women for anyone who identifies as transgender or non-binary," the Post wrote. Jan21

Crypto: **Cardano Founder Considers Bailing Out CoinDesk, Says \$200 Million Is "Overpriced"**jan21

Censorship, policy: incredible statement: "The obvious solution would be for our schools to imitate the most successful parts of our economy. Our economy - the richest in human history - has historically been premised on the belief that competition is good, monopolies are bad, and failing organizations should either adapt or pay the price. Where there is genuine competition, consumers will choose the best options, and businesses will strive to provide them - or go under. Public schools don't face those incentives and don't pay a price for their failure. The rest of us do, especially the ill-served students, who will pay a terrible price for the rest of their lives."

the state of america's public school system: Only 11% of blacks can read at grade level in chicago

wirepoints.org/trapped-in-a-death-spiral-chicago-public-school-spending-hits-record-29k-per-student-as-enrollment-shrinks-outcomes-plummet/?fbclid=IwAR3DuFi11LFvGk_P6byeVZehmLamfaYQ0tGIIWXsw0hGQcYCjB98XiqQzlo

WIREPOINTS HOME POLICY ABOUT US DONATE PENSION SOLUTIONS AMENDMENT 1

Facebook Twitter LinkedIn Email Print

By: Ted Dabrowski and John Klingner


The arguments for tearing apart Chicago Public Schools and replacing it with a universal school choice program continue to pile higher. The system is an abject failure any way you cut it.

Families are fleeing in record numbers as another 9,000 students left the district this school year. In all, student enrollment has dropped by 120,000 over the last two decades.

Reading proficiency for minorities, already dismal before Covid, collapsed by more than 30 percent last year compared to 2019. Only 11 percent of black students and 17 percent of Hispanic children in the entire district could read at grade level in 2021.

Only 11% of black, 17% of Hispanic Chicago Public Schools students can read at grade level

Overall reading proficiency for black and Hispanic students in Chicago Public Schools, 2021



Group	Reading Proficiency (%)
Blacks	11%
Hispanics	17%

Source: ISBE Illinois Report Card

Taxpayers are being forced to pay ever more for the district's failure, with all-in costs now just shy of \$30,000 per student. Four years ago it was just \$20,000.

Not to mention that corruption and union excesses – remember the strikes and walkouts in 2019, 2021 and 2022 – have only entrenched themselves more deeply as things have gotten worse.

There are really no legitimate arguments left for keeping the system intact. The "public good"

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WIREPOINTS ORIGINAL STORIES

https://wirepoints.org/trapped-in-a-death-spiral-chicago-public-school-spending-hits-record-29k-per-student-as-enrollment-shrinks-outcomes-plummet/?fbclid=IwAR3DuFi11LFvGk_P6byeVZehmLamfaYQ0tGIIWXsw0hGQcYCjB98XiqQzlo

policy, media: **increased discovery standards have tossed 69% of cases out of court, new story by NYP says**The study noted the state's discovery rules were such a radical version of reform that even Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg (D) was not happy with them, stating, "My Office's lawyers and support staff continue their herculean efforts in managing discovery-related obligations."

It's appalling how broken the justice system is with the radical policies democrats impose. They empower criminals at the expense of the innocent,"

Justice 'reforms' forcing prosecutors to toss out 69% of NYC criminal cases, alarming new study finds

Meanwhile, the discovery law has also "crippled" the justice system by [leading to "mass attrition" in DA's offices](#) statewide, with many of the 30 respondents to an October survey saying that 40% of ADAs in their offices had [quit since the discovery law took effect](#), according to the study.

"Tens of thousands of cases were needlessly dismissed across the city last year because of the reform's requirement that prosecutors share mounds of inconsequential information. Revisions to the reform are urgently needed," she said.

nypostdotcom/2023/01/19/new-study-shows-how-ny-law-puts-bad-guys-back-on-streets/?utm_source=sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=metro_news_alert&utm_content=20230119?&utm_source=sailthru&lctg=626f2a53a63162293d03514d&utm_term=NYP%20-%20Metro%20Alerts

war: jan20 Some diplomats and officials in Brussels, while dismayed by the serial negative signals from Yanukovych in recent weeks, remained nonetheless hopeful that the president was bluffing, seeking to extract better terms from the EU and could yet yield at the last minute in Vilnius, issuing a presidential pardon for Tymoshenko. "We deplore the pressure and blackmailing tactics that Russia has used against Ukraine, and other countries," said Hannes Swoboda, leader of the social democrats

in the European Parliament. "It is equally deplorable that Ukraine seems to have given in to this pressure."

theguardianDOTcom/world/2013/nov/21/ukraine-suspends-preparations-eu-trade-pact

Putin pulls out of 21 treaties with EU; Russia, Ukraine's largest trading partner jan20

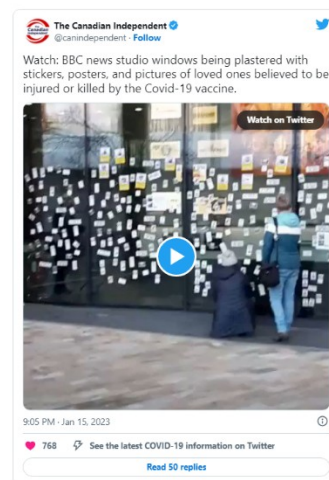
2013: ukraine pulls out of eu partnership in favor of largest trading partner and former 'countryman' (i DID NOT KNOW ABOUT THIS. ALWAYS STUDY RECENT HISTORY BEFORE COMMENTING. JUST LIKE THE STOCK MARKET, YOU JUST DONT KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON BECAUSE YOU WERENT THERE!!!!):
At stake was a trade agreement and a political association deal stemming from 2005 when the EU launched its "eastern neighbourhood policy" offering trade and political benefits to post-Soviet states traditionally falling within Moscow's orbit.

2013, guardian: The EU's losing battle for Ukraine is likely to encourage the Kremlin in its view that Europe is weak and divided and lacks foreign policy muscle. In September Armenia succumbed to Russian pressure and turned its back on years of negotiations with the EU in a move that stunned Brussels.

Policy: Elon Musk: “Even if you tax every billionaire in America at 100%, it barely makes a dent in the national debt. In the end, the government will be forced to tax everyone to pay the debt. Btw, \$31T doesn’t include unfunded liabilities, which are *much* higher.”

Vaccine, war, censorship, journal: yeah, 6 buildings..they're waiting until everybody is most pissed, then comes the big one

The latest trends on responsible investing MarketView



DOLLARIZATION IN ACTION... KIM DOTCOM: YOU'RE WITNESSING THE ACCELERATED FALL OF AN EMPIRE

Buckle Up, the Bond Market is About to Break a Major Central Bank

2023 should be interesting...



Steven Crowder Finished? - Feud With Daily Wire Has Taken a Dark Turn - UPDATE...

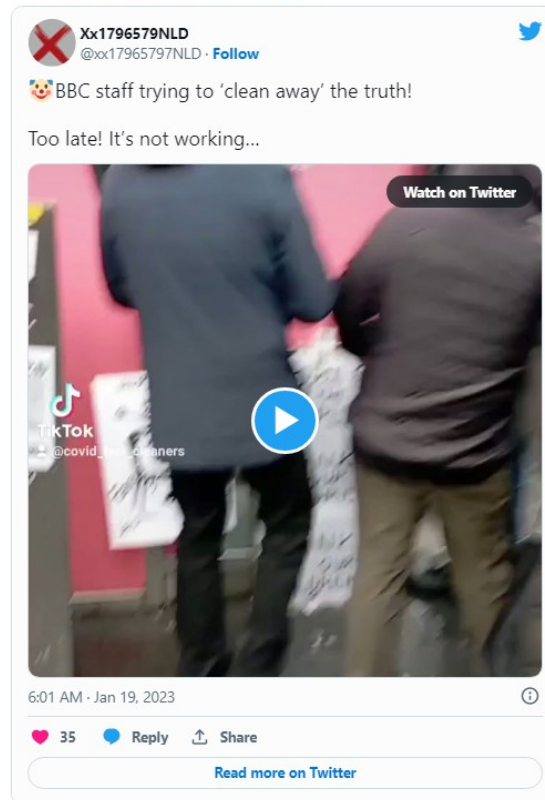


Tucker: There is only one word to describe this: INVASION...



January 19, 2023 10:12 pm by IWB

Sharing is Caring!



At Least 6 BBC Buildings Across UK Covered with Photos of People Who Died from COVID Vaccine (VIDEO) No More Lies

History, rome: confirms what i was looking for, although just a simple declarative statement, still probably credible: (800-1804)Formally an empire, de facto a confederation of mainly German, Italian, Czech, and French states that was formally the most populous realm in Europe for over a thousand years.

Contents [hide]

(Top)

Confederated states

Examples

Belgium

Benelux

Canada

European Union

Indigenous confederations in North America

Serbia and Montenegro

Switzerland

Union State of Russia and Belarus

Historical confederations

List

See also

References

Sources

External links

List [edit]

Some have more the characteristics of a **personal union**, but appear here because of their self-styling as a "confederation".

Name	Period	Notes
Three Crowned Kings	1050 BCE–second century BCE	As described in the Hathigumpha inscription . On the 11th year, Kharavela broke up a confederacy of Tamil kingdoms, which was becoming a threat to Kalinga Kharavela
Toltec Empire	496–1122	Existed as a confederation between the Toltecs and the Chichimeca , simultaneously as an empire exerting control over places like Cholula .
Holy Roman Empire ^[42]	800–1806	Formally an empire, <i>de facto</i> a confederation of mainly German, Italian, Czech, and French states that was formally the most populous realm in Europe for over a thousand years.
Kimek–Kipchak confederation	9th century–13th century	A Turkic confederation in the eastern part of the Eurasian Steppe, between the 9th and 13th centuries. The confederation was dominated by two Turkic nomadic tribes: the Kimeks and the Kipchaks .
Cumania	10th century–1242	A Turkic confederation in the western part of the Eurasian Steppe, between the 10th and 13th centuries. The confederation was dominated by two Turkic nomadic tribes: the Cumans and the Kipchaks .
League of Mayapan	987–1461	
Crown of Aragon	1137–1716	
Haudenosaunee	1142–present	Also known as the Iroquois Confederacy or the Six (formerly Five) Nations.
Hanseatic League	13th–17th centuries	
Old Swiss Confederacy	1291–1848	Officially, the "Swiss Confederation".
Kara Koyunlu	1375–1468	A Turkoman tribal confederation.
Aq Qoyunlu	1379–1501	A Turkoman tribal confederation.
Kalmar Union ^a	1397–1523	Denmark , Sweden , Norway .
Aztec Empire	1428–1521	
Livonian Confederation	1435–1561	Consisted of the city-states of Tenochohtitlan , Texcoco and Tlacopan .
Pre-Commonwealth Poland and Lithuania ^a	1447–1492	
Denmark-Norway ^a	1501–1569	Shared a monarch (Grand Duke of Lithuania and King of Poland), parliament (Sejm) and currency.
Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands	1536–1814	
Wampanoag Confederacy	1581–1795	
Powhatan Confederacy		
Illinois Confederation		
Confederate Ireland	1641–1649	
New England Confederation	1643–1684	
Kingdom of Lunda	c. 1665–1687	
Maratha Empire	1674–1818	
Aro Confederacy	1690–1902	Parts of present-day Nigeria , Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea .
The United States of America	1781–1789	Organization of the United States under the Articles of Confederation
Western Confederacy	1785–1795	
Confederation of the Rhine	1806–1813	Had no head of state nor government.
German Confederation	1815–1866	

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2°C Cloudy

6:51 PM 1/19/20

Early Middle Ages

typically regarded by historians as lasting from the late 5th or early 6th century to the 10th century

marked the start of the [Middle Ages](#) of [European history](#), following the [decline](#) of the [Western Roman Empire](#), and preceding the [High Middle Ages](#) (c. 11th to 13th centuries). The alternative term *late antiquity*, for the early part of the period, emphasizes elements of continuity with the [Roman Empire](#),

The period saw a continuation of trends evident since late [classical antiquity](#), including [population decline](#), especially in urban centres, a decline of trade, [a small rise in average temperatures in the North Atlantic region](#) and [increased migration](#). In the 19th century the Early Middle Ages were often labelled the *Dark Ages*, a characterization based on the relative scarcity of literary and cultural output from this time, although the term is scarcely used by academics today.^[1] However, the [Eastern Roman Empire](#), or [Byzantine Empire](#), continued to survive, though in the 7th century the [Rashidun Caliphate](#) and the [Umayyad Caliphate](#) conquered swathes of formerly Roman territory.

Many of the listed trends reversed later in the period. In 800, the title of [Emperor](#) was revived in Western Europe with [Charlemagne](#), whose [Carolingian Empire](#) greatly affected later European social structure and history. Europe experienced a return to systematic agriculture in the form of the [feudal system](#), which adopted such innovations as [three-field planting](#) and the heavy plough. [Barbarian](#) migration stabilized in much of [Europe](#), although the [Viking expansion](#) greatly affected [Northern Europe](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Middle_Ages

The **Holy Roman Empire**^[17] was a [political entity](#)^[18] in [Western](#), [Central](#), and [Southern Europe](#) that developed during the [Early Middle Ages](#) and continued until its [dissolution in 1806](#) during the [Napoleonic Wars](#).^[19]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holy_Roman_Empire

history, fall of rome: eastern roman recapture in 500, byzantine was greek: the Byzantines managed to fend off assaults by the migrating barbarians. Their dreams of subduing the Western potentates briefly materialized during the reign of Justinian I in 527-565. Not only did Justinian restore some western territories to the Roman Empire, including Rome and the Italian peninsula itself, but he also codified Roman law (with his codification remaining in force in many areas of Europe until the 19th century) and commissioned the building of the largest and most architecturally advanced edifice of the Early Middle Ages, the Hagia Sophia. However, his reign also saw the outbreak of a bubonic plague pandemic,[19][20] now known retroactively as the Plague of Justinian. The Emperor himself was afflicted, and within the span of less than a year, an estimated 200,000 Constantinopolites—two out of every five city residents—had died of the disease

Justinian's successors [Maurice](#) and [Heraclius](#) confronted invasions by the [Avar](#) and [Slavic](#) tribes. After the devastations by the Slavs and the Avars, large areas of the [Balkans](#) became depopulated. In 626 Constantinople, by far the largest city of early medieval Europe, [withstood a combined siege](#) by Avars and Persians. Within several decades, Heraclius completed a holy war against the Persians, taking their capital and having a [Sassanid](#) monarch assassinated. Yet Heraclius lived to see his spectacular success undone by the [Muslim conquests](#) of [Syria](#), three [Palaestina provinces](#), [Egypt](#), and [North Africa](#) which was considerably facilitated by religious

disunity and the proliferation of heretical movements (notably [Monophysitism](#) and [Nestorianism](#)) in the areas converted to Islam.

Restored [Walls of Constantinople](#)

Although Heraclius's successors managed to salvage [Constantinople](#) from two [Arab sieges](#) (in 674–77 and 717), the empire of the 8th and early 9th century was rocked by the great [Iconoclastic Controversy](#), punctuated by dynastic struggles between various factions at court. The [Bulgar](#) and [Slavic](#) tribes profited from these disorders and invaded [Illyria](#), [Thrace](#) and even [Greece](#). After the decisive victory at [Ongala](#) in 680 the armies of the Bulgars and Slavs advanced to the south of the Balkan mountains, defeating again the Byzantines who were then forced to sign a humiliating peace treaty which acknowledged the establishment of the [First Bulgarian Empire](#) on the borders of the Empire.

To counter these threats a new system of administration was introduced. The regional civil and military administration were combined in the hands of a general, or strategos. A [theme](#), which formerly denoted a subdivision of the Byzantine army, came to refer to a region governed by a strategos. The reform led to the emergence of great landed families which controlled the regional military and often pressed their claims to the throne (see [Bardas Phocas](#) and [Bardas Sklerus](#) for characteristic examples).

Christ crowning [Constantine VII](#)

ivory plaque, ca. 945

By the early 8th century, notwithstanding the shrinking territory of the empire, Constantinople remained the largest and the wealthiest city west of [China](#), comparable

only to Sassanid [Ctesiphon](#), and later [Abbasid Baghdad](#). The population of the imperial capital fluctuated between 300,000 and 400,000 as the emperors undertook measures to restrain its growth. The only other large Christian cities were Rome (50,000) and [Salonika](#) (30,000).^[23] Even before the 8th century was out, the Farmer's Law signalled the resurrection of agricultural technologies in the Roman Empire. As the 2006 *Encyclopædia Britannica* noted, "the technological base of Byzantine society was more advanced than that of contemporary western Europe: iron tools could be found in the villages; water mills dotted the landscape; and field-sown beans provided a diet rich in protein".^[24]

The ascension of the [Macedonian dynasty](#) in 867 marked the end of the period of political and religious turmoil and introduced a new golden age of the empire. While the talented generals such as [Nicephorus Phocas](#) expanded the frontiers, the Macedonian emperors (such as [Leo the Wise](#) and [Constantine VII](#)) presided over the cultural flowering in Constantinople, known as the [Macedonian Renaissance](#). The enlightened Macedonian rulers scorned the rulers of Western Europe as illiterate barbarians and maintained a nominal claim to rule over the West. Although this fiction had been exploded with the coronation of [Charlemagne](#) in Rome (800), the Byzantine rulers did not treat their Western counterparts as equals. Generally, they had little interest in political and economic developments in the barbarian (from their point of view) West.

Against this economic background the culture and the imperial traditions of the Eastern Roman Empire attracted its northern neighbours—Slavs, Bulgars, and Khazars—to [Constantinople](#), in search of either pillage or enlightenment. The movement of the Germanic tribes to the south triggered the great migration of the [Slavs](#), who occupied the vacated territories. In the 7th century, they moved westward to the [Elbe](#), southward to the [Danube](#) and eastward to the [Dnieper](#). By the 9th century, the Slavs had expanded into sparsely inhabited territories to the south and east from these natural frontiers, peacefully assimilating the indigenous [Illyrian](#) and [Finnic](#) populations.

Rise of Islam^{[[edit](#)]}

632–750

Main articles: [Spread of Islam](#), [Early Muslim conquests](#), [Arab-Byzantine wars](#), [Muslim conquest of the Levant](#), [Umayyad conquest of Spain](#), and [History of Islam in southern Italy](#)

Europe around 650

From the 7th century, [Byzantine history](#) was greatly affected by the rise of Islam and the [Caliphates](#). [Muslim Arabs](#) first invaded historically Roman territory under [Abū Bakr](#), first Caliph of the [Rashidun Caliphate](#), who entered [Roman Syria](#) and [Roman](#)

[Mesopotamia](#). The Byzantines and neighbouring Persian [Sasanids](#) had been severely weakened by a long succession of [Byzantine-Sasanian wars](#), especially the climactic [Byzantine-Sasanian War of 602-628](#). Under [Umar](#), the second Caliph, the Muslims decisively conquered [Syria](#) and [Mesopotamia](#), as well as [Roman Palestine](#), [Roman Egypt](#), parts of [Asia Minor](#) and [Roman North Africa](#), while they entirely toppled the Sasanids. In the mid 7th century, following the [Muslim conquest of Persia](#), Islam penetrated into the [Caucasus](#) region, of which parts [would later](#) permanently become part of [Russia](#).^[25] This expansion of Islam continued under Umar's successors and then the [Umayyad Caliphate](#), which conquered the rest of Mediterranean North Africa and most of the [Iberian Peninsula](#). Over the next centuries Muslim forces were able to take further European territory, including [Cyprus](#), [Malta](#), [Septimania](#), [Crete](#), and [Sicily and parts of southern Italy](#).^[26]

The Muslim conquest of Hispania began when the [Moors](#) (mostly [Berbers](#) and some [Arabs](#)) invaded the [Christian Visigothic Kingdom](#) in the year 711, under their Berber leader [Tariq ibn Ziyad](#). They landed at [Gibraltar](#) on 30 April and worked their way northward. Tariq's forces were joined the next year by those of his superior, [Musa ibn Nusair](#). During the eight-year campaign most of the [Iberian Peninsula](#) was brought under [Muslim](#) rule—except for small areas in the north-northwest ([Asturias](#)) and largely [Basque](#) regions in the [Pyrenees](#). This territory, under the Arab name [Al-Andalus](#), became part of the expanding [Umayyad](#) empire.

The unsuccessful [second siege of Constantinople](#) (717) weakened the [Umayyad dynasty](#) and reduced their prestige. After their success in overrunning Iberia, the conquerors moved northeast across the Pyrenees. They were defeated by the [Frankish](#) leader [Charles Martel](#) at the [Battle of Poitiers](#) in 732. The Umayyads were overthrown in 750 by the [Abbāsids](#) and most of the Umayyad clan were massacred.

A surviving Umayyad prince, [Abd-ar-rahman I](#), escaped to Spain and founded a new Umayyad dynasty in the [Emirate of Cordoba](#) in 756. Charles Martel's son [Pippin the Short](#) retook [Narbonne](#), and his grandson Charlemagne established the [Marca Hispanica](#) across the Pyrenees in part of what today is [Catalonia](#), reconquering [Girona](#) in 785 and [Barcelona](#) in 801. The Umayyads in Hispania proclaimed themselves caliphs in 929.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Middle_Ages

the most shattering defeat that the Romans had suffered since the Battle of Cannae (216 BC), according to the Roman military writer Ammianus Marcellinus.:

In the [Gothic War \(376-382\)](#), the Goths revolted and confronted the [main Roman army](#) in the [Battle of Adrianople](#) (378). By this time, the distinction in the Roman army between Roman regulars and barbarian [auxiliaries](#) had broken down, and the Roman army was composed mainly of barbarians and soldiers recruited for a single campaign. The general decline in discipline also led to the use of smaller shields and lighter weaponry.^[6] Not wanting to share the glory, Eastern Emperor [Valens](#) ordered an attack on the [Therving](#) infantry under [Fritigern](#) without waiting for Western Emperor [Gratian](#), who was on the way with reinforcements. While the Romans were fully engaged, the Greuthung cavalry arrived. Only one-third of the Roman army managed to escape. This

represented the most shattering defeat that the Romans had suffered since the [Battle of Cannae](#) (216 BC), according to the Roman military writer [Ammianus Marcellinus](#).^[7] The core army of the Eastern Roman Empire was destroyed, Valens was killed, and the Goths were freed to lay waste to the [Balkans](#), including the armories along the Danube. As [Edward Gibbon](#) comments, "The Romans, who so coolly and so concisely mention the acts of *justice* which were exercised by the legions, reserve their compassion and their eloquence for their own sufferings, when the provinces were invaded and desolated by the arms of the successful Barbarians."^[8]

The empire lacked the resources, and perhaps the will, to reconstruct the professional mobile army destroyed at Adrianople, so it had to rely on barbarian armies to fight for it. The [Eastern Roman Empire](#) succeeded in buying off the Goths with tribute. The [Western Roman Empire](#) proved less fortunate. [Stilicho](#), the western empire's half-Vandal military commander, stripped the [Rhine](#) frontier of troops to fend off invasions of Italy by the [Visigoths](#) in 402–03 and by other Goths in 406–07.

Fleeing before the advance of the [Huns](#), the [Vandals](#), [Suebi](#), and [Alans](#) launched an attack across the frozen Rhine near [Mainz](#); on 31 December 406, the frontier gave way and these tribes surged into [Roman Gaul](#). There soon followed the [Burgundians](#) and bands of the [Alamanni](#). In the fit of anti-barbarian hysteria which followed, the Western Roman Emperor [Honorius](#) had Stilicho summarily beheaded (408). Stilicho submitted his neck, "with a firmness not unworthy of the [last of the Roman generals](#)", wrote Gibbon. Honorius was left with only worthless courtiers to advise him. In 410, the Visigoths led by [Alaric I](#) [captured the city of Rome](#) and for three days fire and slaughter ensued as bodies filled the streets, palaces were stripped of their valuables, and the invaders interrogated and tortured those citizens thought to have hidden wealth. As newly converted Christians, the Goths respected church property, but those who found sanctuary in the [Vatican](#) and in other churches were the fortunate few.

The Goths and Vandals were only the first of many bands of peoples that flooded [Western Europe](#) in the absence of administrative governance. Some^[who?] lived only for war and pillage and disdained Roman ways. Other peoples^[9] had been in prolonged contact with the Roman civilization, and were, to a certain degree, romanized. "A poor Roman plays the Goth, a rich Goth the Roman," said King [Theoderic](#) of the Ostrogoths.^[10] The subjects of the Roman empire were a mixture of [Roman Christian](#), [Arian Christian](#), [Nestorian Christian](#), and [pagan](#).^[citation needed] The Germanic peoples knew little of cities, money, or writing, and were mostly pagan, though they were increasingly converting to [Arianism](#), a [non-trinitarian](#) form of Christianity that considers God the Son to have been created by, and thus inferior to, God the Father, rather than the two being [co-eternal](#), which is the position of [Chalcedonian Christianity](#). Arianism found some favour in the Roman Empire before being eclipsed by the Chalcedonian position and then suppressed as heretical.

During the migrations, or [Völkerwanderung](#) (wandering of the peoples), the earlier settled populations were sometimes left intact though usually partially or entirely displaced. [Roman culture](#) north of the [Po River](#) was almost entirely displaced by the migrations. Whereas the peoples of France, Italy, Spain and Portugal continued to speak the dialects of [Vulgar Latin](#) that today constitute the [Romance languages](#), the language of the smaller Roman-era population of what is now England disappeared with barely a trace in the territories settled by the Anglo-Saxons, although the Brittanic kingdoms of

the west remained [Brythonic](#) speakers. The new peoples greatly altered established society, including law, culture, religion, and patterns of property ownership.

A [paten](#) from the [Treasure of Gourdon](#), found at [Gourdon, Saône-et-Loire](#), France.

The [pax Romana](#) had provided safe conditions for trade and manufacture, and a unified cultural and educational milieu of far-ranging connections. As this was lost, it was replaced by the rule of local potentates, sometimes members of the established Romanized ruling elite, sometimes new lords of alien culture. In [Aquitania](#), [Gallia Narbonensis](#), southern Italy and Sicily, [Baetica](#) or southern [Spain](#), and the Iberian Mediterranean coast, Roman culture lasted until the 6th or 7th centuries.

The gradual breakdown and transformation of economic and social linkages and infrastructure resulted in increasingly localized outlooks. This breakdown was often fast and dramatic as it became unsafe to travel or carry goods over any distance; there was a consequent collapse in trade and manufacture for export. Major industries that depended on trade, such as large-scale pottery manufacture, vanished almost overnight in places like Britain. [Tintagel](#) in [Cornwall](#), as well as several other centres, managed to obtain supplies of Mediterranean luxury goods well into the 6th century, but then lost their trading links. Administrative, educational and military infrastructure quickly vanished, and the loss of the established [cursus honorum](#) led to the collapse of the schools and to a rise of illiteracy even among the leadership. The careers of [Cassiodorus](#) (died c. 585) at the beginning of this period and of [Alcuin of York](#) (died 804) at its close were founded alike on their valued literacy. For the formerly Roman area, there was another 20 per cent decline in population between 400 and 600, or a one-third decline for 150–600.^[11] In the 8th century, the volume of trade reached its lowest level. The very small number of [shipwrecks](#) found that dated from the 8th century supports this (which represents less than 2 per cent of the number of shipwrecks dated from the 1st century). There was also reforestation and a retreat of agriculture centred around 500.

The Romans had practiced [two-field agriculture](#), with a crop grown in one field and the other left fallow and ploughed under to eliminate weeds. Systematic agriculture largely disappeared and yields declined. It is estimated that the [Plague of Justinian](#) which began in 541 and recurred periodically for 150 years thereafter killed as many as 100 million people across the world.^{[12][13]} Some historians such as Josiah C. Russell (1958) have suggested a total European population loss of 50 to 60 per cent between 541 and 700.^[14] After the year 750, major epidemic diseases did not appear again in Europe until the [Black Death](#) of the 14th century. The disease [smallpox](#), which was eradicated in the late 20th century, did not definitively enter [Western Europe](#) until about 581 when Bishop [Gregory of Tours](#) provided an eyewitness account that describes the characteristic findings of smallpox.^[15] Waves of [epidemics](#) wiped out large rural populations.^[16] Most of the details about the epidemics are lost, probably due to the scarcity of surviving written records.

For almost a thousand years, [Rome](#) was the most politically important, richest and largest city in Europe.^[17] Around 100 AD, it had a population of about 450,000,^[18] and declined to a mere 20,000 during the Early Middle Ages, reducing the sprawling city to groups of inhabited buildings interspersed among large areas of ruins and vegetation.



Byzantine Empire^[edit]

Main article: [Byzantine Empire](#)

Byzantine Empire

[Byzantium under the Justinian dynasty](#)

- Under Emperor [Justinian](#) (r. 527–565), the [Byzantines](#) were able to reestablish Roman rule in Italy and most of North Africa.

-  Justinian's conquests
-  [Eastern Empire](#)

The death of [Theodosius I](#) in 395 was followed by the division of the empire between his two sons. The [Western Roman Empire](#) disintegrated into a mosaic of warring Germanic kingdoms in the 5th century, effectively making the [Eastern Roman Empire](#) in Constantinople the [Greek-speaking](#) successor to the classical Roman Empire. To distinguish it from its predominantly [Latin-speaking](#) predecessor, historians began referring to the empire as "Byzantine", after the original name of Constantinople, [Byzantium](#). Despite this, the inhabitants of the Byzantine Empire continued to regard themselves as Romans, or *Romaioi*, until the [fall of Constantinople](#) to the [Ottoman Empire](#) in 1453.

The Eastern Roman or "Byzantine" Empire aimed to retain control of the trade routes between Europe and the Orient, which made the Empire the richest polity in Medieval Europe. Making use of their sophisticated warfare and superior diplomacy, the Byzantines managed to fend off assaults by the migrating barbarians. Their dreams of subduing the Western potentates briefly materialized during the reign of [Justinian I](#) in 527–565. Not only did Justinian restore some western territories to the Roman Empire, including Rome and the Italian peninsula itself, but he also codified [Roman law](#) (with [his codification](#) remaining in force in many areas of Europe until the 19th century) and commissioned the building of the largest and most architecturally advanced edifice of the Early Middle Ages, the [Hagia Sophia](#). However, his reign also saw the outbreak of a [bubonic plague pandemic](#),^{[19][20]} now known retroactively as the [Plague of Justinian](#). The Emperor himself was afflicted, and within the span of less than a year, an estimated 200,000 Constantinopolites—two out of every five city residents—had died of the disease.^[21]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Middle_Ages

war: lavrov on the coming multi-polar world:
"Lavrov warned that Russia's showdown with the West over Ukraine was part of a global policy shift that will evolve over a long period. "The process of forming a multipolar world order will be long; it will take an epoch," he said. "And we are in the middle of that process now."

aljazeera.com/news/2023/1/18/lavrov-hails-moscow-beijing-ties-accuses-us-of-provocations

war, markets: jan19 Seoul, South Korea: biden visits samsung, South Korea's biggest conglomerate

"Semiconductors power our economies and enable our modern lives, from our automobiles to our smartphones to medical diagnostic equipment," Biden said at the factory before touting chips as the next frontier in the alliance between the US and South Korea that dates back to the 1950-1953 Korean War.

"And by uniting our skills and our technological know-how, it allows the production of chips that are critical to both our countries and are essential - essential - sectors of our global economy."

But several months removed from that visit, the picture of mutually beneficial cooperation presented by Biden is being complicated by US measures to both restore its own manufacturing base and confront China.

Even as Washington tries to recruit Asian allies and partners to join the pushback against Beijing, its turn towards protectionism has caused jitters in the US-friendly chip powerhouses of South Korea and Taiwan, both of which have close economic links to China.

“To a good extent [the US] is very dependent on everybody, [and] everybody is very dependent on China,” G Dan Hutcheson, vice chair of TechInsights Inc., told Al Jazeera, arguing that while these countries may to an extent see each other as competitors for chip supremacy, their economies rely on trade with each other.

There are scenarios where competition over chips could compel countries to seek leverage by withholding exports of other items, such as electronics or pharmaceuticals, thereby causing broad disruptions to global trade and shortages of consumer goods, Hutcheson said, adding: “This could just become really ugly very fast.”

In a meeting with reporters last year, Kyung Kye-hyun, head of Samsung Electronics’ semiconductor business, expressed concern about “difficulties in the long run when we have to put new equipment into our factory in China”. Kyung also said South Korea should seek “understanding” from China, the country’s biggest trading partner

In South Korea, Japan and Taiwan, the US push to hobble China’s tech advancement has presented challenges.

South Korea’s Samsung and SK Hynix, which together lead global production of memory chips, and Taiwan’s TSMC, the

No 1 player in non-memory chips, all operate production facilities in China.

Japan, another US ally and home to some of the world's leading semiconductor materials producers and equipment makers, last year exported more than one-third of its manufacturing equipment to China. In a meeting with reporters last year, Kyung Kye-hyun, head of Samsung Electronics' semiconductor business, expressed concern about "difficulties in the long run when we have to put new equipment into our factory in China".

Kyung also said South Korea should seek "understanding" from China, the country's biggest trading partner, before joining a proposed "Chip 4 alliance" comprising the US, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan.

In August, Biden signed the Chips and Science Act, which highlighted how the US relies on East Asia for 75 percent of its semiconductors.

https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2023/1/5/us-bid-to-hobble-chinas-chips-spells-friend-south-korea-taiwan?traffic_source=KeepReading

tech: "According to market research firm Gartner, in Q4 2022, Apple's Mac line of desktops and laptops made up just 10.7% of the global market. That's below the likes of Dell at 16.7%, HP at 20.2%, and Lenovo at 24%. "

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/apple-wants-to-control-everything-from-its-chips-to-screens-193041594.html>

tech: "The beauty of the Apple model is that they'll continue to make their chips faster than any other hardware company, selling the benefits of speed for decades to come," Gene Munster, managing partner at Loup Ventures, wrote in an analyst note. "When it comes to retaining customers and growing Mac revenue, speed is the gift that keeps giving."

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/apple-wants-to-control-everything-from-its-chips-to-screens-193041594.html>

war: jan19

lavrov playing into the ukraine being used a pawn narrative--that is really just be coming a fact at this point, and not a narrative--in his recent comments that were reported by state run russian news network, tass, when he is quoted by them saying, " "We often hear assertions from the West that 'not a word can be said about Ukraine without Ukraine.' But, in fact the West is making decisions for Ukraine," Lavrov said, speaking at his annual press conference on the results of Russian diplomacy in 2022. "They have already prohibited [Ukrainian President Vladimir] Zelensky from coming to an agreement with Russia in late March. The West decided for Ukraine and made it on behalf of Ukraine without Ukraine," the top

Russian diplomat noted. Speaking about the negotiations in March 2022, when Moscow backed the Kiev-proposed initiative on settling the conflict, Lavrov pointed out that it was the West, which "restrained Ukraine harshly." "Since then, many Western representatives resorted to various tones on numerous occasions saying that it was still too early to get back to negotiations since it [Ukraine] needs to be supplied with more weapons so that it could resume talks from much stronger positions," the Russian minister added."

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History: prohibition, (1920-1933): Led by pietistic Protestants, prohibitionists first attempted to end the trade in alcoholic drinks during the 19th century. They aimed to heal what they saw as an ill society beset by alcohol-related problems such as alcoholism, family violence, and saloon-based political corruption. ; By the late 1920s, a new opposition to Prohibition emerged nationwide. Critics attacked the policy as causing crime, lowering local revenues, and imposing "rural" Protestant religious values on "urban" America.; In 1830, on average, Americans consumed 1.7 bottles of hard liquor per week, three times the amount consumed in 2010.[22]

Development of the prohibition movement[\[edit\]](#)

Main articles: [Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution](#) and [Volstead Act](#)

"Who does not love wine, wife and song, will be a fool his whole life long!" (*Wer nicht liebt Wein, Weib & Gesang / Bleibt ein Narr sein Leben lang.*)

The [American Temperance Society](#) (ATS), formed in 1826, helped initiate the first temperance movement and served as a foundation for many later groups. By 1835 the

ATS had reached 1.5 million members, with [women](#) constituting 35% to 60% of its chapters.^[34]

The Prohibition movement, also known as the dry crusade, continued in the 1840s, spearheaded by [pietistic](#) religious denominations, especially the [Methodists](#). The late 19th century saw the [temperance movement](#) broaden its focus from abstinence to include all behavior and institutions related to alcohol consumption. Preachers such as [Reverend Mark A. Matthews](#) linked liquor-dispensing saloons with political corruption.^[35]

Some successes for the movement were achieved in the 1850s, including the [Maine law](#), adopted in 1851, which banned the manufacture and sale of liquor. Before its repeal in 1856, 12 states followed the example set by Maine in total prohibition.^[36] The temperance movement lost strength and was marginalized during the [American Civil War](#) (1861–1865). Following the war, social moralists turned to other issues, such as [Mormon polygamy](#) and the [temperance movement](#).^{[37][38][39]}

The dry crusade was revived by the national [Prohibition Party](#), founded in 1869, and the [Woman's Christian Temperance Union](#) (WCTU), founded in 1873. The WCTU advocated the prohibition of alcohol as a method for preventing, through education, abuse from alcoholic husbands.^[40] WCTU members believed that if their organization could reach children with its message, it could create a dry sentiment leading to prohibition. [Frances Willard](#), the second president of the WCTU, held that the aims of the organization were to create a "union of women from all denominations, for the purpose of educating the young, forming a better public sentiment, reforming the drinking classes, transforming by the power of Divine grace those who are enslaved by alcohol, and removing the [dram-shop](#) from our streets by law".^[41] While still denied universal voting privileges, women in the WCTU followed Frances Willard's "Do Everything" doctrine and used temperance as a method of entering into politics and furthering other progressive issues such as prison reform and [labor laws](#).^[42]

This 1902 illustration from the *Hawaiian Gazette* newspaper humorously shows the [water cure torture](#) used by Anti-Saloon League and WCTU on the brewers of beer.

In 1881 [Kansas](#) became the first state to outlaw alcoholic beverages in its [Constitution](#).^[43] Arrested over 30 times and fined and jailed on multiple occasions, prohibition activist [Carrie Nation](#) attempted to enforce the state's ban on alcohol consumption.^[44] She walked into saloons, scolding customers, and used her hatchet to destroy bottles of liquor. Nation recruited ladies into the Carrie Nation Prohibition Group, which she also led. While Nation's vigilante techniques were rare, other activists enforced the dry cause by entering saloons, singing, praying, and urging saloonkeepers to stop selling alcohol.^[45] Other [dry states](#), especially those in the [South](#), enacted prohibition legislation, as did individual counties within a state.

The 1800s: When Americans Drank Whiskey Like it was Water

With all of that said, though, there's one aspect of the road to Prohibition that is undeniable, and that's the American appetite for alcohol. In short: We have oftentimes been a nation of drunks, but by today's standards, average alcohol consumption in large parts of the 19th century U.S.A. *was almost beyond rational belief*. You will likely find it hard to accept as a fact just how much booze the average American was consuming in the first half of the 1800's. The figures are almost cartoonishly high, so let's consider how we got there first.

By 1830, alcohol consumption reached its peak at a truly outlandish **7 gallons of ethanol a year** per capita. Via Okrent:

In modern terms, those seven gallons are the equivalent of 1.7 bottles of a standard 80-proof liquor per person, per week—

<https://www.pastemagazine.com/drink/alcohol-history/the-1800s-when-americans-drunk-whiskey-like-it-was/>

war: jan19 desperate words from medvedev?:

. "The defeat of a nuclear power in a conventional war may trigger a nuclear war," [he began](#).

"Nuclear powers have never lost major conflicts **on which their fate depends**," the former president, who in prior years had actually been seen as more dovish when compared to Putin, added. Medvedev's comments came in reaction to news of **a major meeting of Western defense leaders set for Friday** at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

MAX KEISER
MISES INSTITUTE
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NEWSQUAWK
OF TWO MINDS
OIL PRICE

EXPAND

the question of aircraft, given Zelensky's persistent request to help "close the skies".

According to at least one prominent international outlet, the Kremlin has backed Medvedev's ultra-provocative nuclear remarks as Western allies gear up for the [Friday meeting](#):

The Kremlin was quick to endorse Medvedev's remarks, saying they were in full accordance with Moscow's principles.

Moscow's doctrine allows for a nuclear attack after "aggression against the Russian Federation with conventional weapons when the very existence of the state is threatened".

Medvedev hasn't been shy about raising the specter of nuclear Armageddon throughout much of the 11-month conflict. He typically gives voice to the Kremlin's 'worst case' - or most escalatory - way of thinking in response to the West escalation. His words often represent the 'big stick' approach from Moscow's point of view.



Regardless of these fresh severe warnings, there's growing consensus among Western powers that Ukraine needs heavy tanks. At the moment, all eyes are on Washington and Berlin, also while new German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius [takes his post](#):

*US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has said Berlin remains one of Washington's most important allies at his first meeting with his new German counterpart **before crunch talks on supplying German-made tanks to Ukraine**.*

"I'd like to thank the German government for all that it has done to strengthen Ukraine's self-defense," Austin said at the start of his talks with Boris Pistorius.

Additionally NATO's Jen Stoltenberg said Thursday when speaking about the Ukraine war, "weapons are the way to peace."



War: **jan19** Ukraine's Zelenskyy invites China's President Xi for 'dialogue'; Zelenskyy's wife, Olena Zelenska, says a letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin's ally was handed to the Chinese delegation in Davos.

Zelenskyy has repeatedly sought to make contact with Xi since [Russia's invasion of Ukraine](#) in February last year in the hope that Beijing will use its influence over Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

"It was a gesture and invitation to dialogue and I hope very much that there will be a response to this invitation," Zelenska told reporters.

China and Russia announced a “no limits” partnership in February last year, shortly before Putin ordered his troops into Ukraine.

Beijing has sought to position itself as neutral in the war, while at the same time [deepening ties with Moscow](#), particularly in the energy sector.

War: Japan says Fukushima water release to start in ‘spring or summer’, Jan.13th

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/1/13/japan-says-fukushima-water-release-to-start-in-spring-or-summer>

More than 1 million tonnes of water are being stored in about 1,000 tanks at the destroyed plant, hampering its decommissioning and in danger of leaking in the event of a major earthquake or tsunami.

The Pacific Island Forum (PIF), a regional bloc of 17 island nations, many of whom are [still grappling with the legacy of nuclear testing](#) decades ago, say the release of the water could have a significant effect on fishing grounds that their economies rely on, and where up to half of the world’s tuna is sourced.

War, markets: Russia Was Top Seaborne Oil Supplier to Europe in 2022 Despite Sanctions, Jan 18, 2023

While the European Union's seaborne imports of Russian crude oil declined by just over 12% last year, Russia still enjoyed status as the top seaborne oil supplier to the bloc, despite sanctions.

According to data from maritime sector brokerage firm Banchero Costa, last year saw the EU import 98.8 million tonnes of Russian crude via sea, down from 112.5 million tonnes in 2021 and 128.5 million tonnes in 2019.

For 2022, Russia still accounted for 21.9% of European seaborne imports of Russian crude, followed by the North Sea, which accounted for 17% and North Africa, at 15.4%.

North Sea shipments of oil to Europe were up by 19.2% year-on-year, and well above 2019 numbers, while North African shipments of oil to Europe increased by 6%. Shipments from West Africa to Europe were up by 27.5% for 2022. The United States saw a 43.1% increase of crude oil exports to Europe for a record 51.4 million tonnes.

But the biggest surge came from the Arabian Gulf, registering a 76.4% increase year-on-year in 2022, though this is still down from the levels of 2019, while the U.S. exports to Europe were record-breaking.

Overall, Banchero said, citing Refinitiv data, "2022 has turned out to be a very positive year for crude oil trade, despite the surging oil prices and risks of economic recession".

Globally, the data shows an 8.5% increase in total crude oil loadings, year-on-year. Total loadings came in at 2,047.3 million compared to 1,886.3 million for 2021 and 2,110.5 million tonnes for 2019.

Though Russia has seen its exports to the EU decline by over 12% last year, the data shows that overall it saw an increase in exports by 10.3% to 2018.5 million tonnes. That figure is only slightly below 2019 levels.

Likewise, the United States also experienced a surge in exports of crude oil, gaining over 22% in the twelve months of 2022, as did Saudi Arabia, showing an over 17% increase.

This compares to West Africa and the North Sea, both of which saw a decline in oil exports for 2022.

On the demand side of the equation, China's intake of seaborne crude oil overall dropped by 3.6% last year, while India saw the reverse: an 11.7% increase in imports.

War: jan.11th: “We are carrying out NATO’s mission,” Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov said in an interview. “They aren’t shedding their blood. We’re shedding ours. That’s why they’re required to supply us with weapons.” Repeating a rationale offered by his US sponsors in previous wars, including the invasion of Iraq, Reznikov added that Ukraine “is defending the entire civilized world.”

War: NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg on Wednesday called for a “significant increase” in military aid for Kyiv., recognizes we have reached important crescendo, something I think anybody watching closely can see, jan19

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg on Wednesday called for a “significant increase” in military aid for Kyiv.

“This is a pivotal moment in the war and the need for a significant increase in support for Ukraine,” the NATO chief told *Reuters* on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

On jan 1st he also said something that sounded counter-intuitive, but gave a nice window into where he stands in terms of aggression

“It may sound like a paradox, but military support for Ukraine is the fastest way to peace,” Stoltenberg told the German news agency DPA. “We know that most wars end at the negotiating table – probably this war too – but we know that what Ukraine can achieve in these negotiations depends inextricably on the military situation.”

Clearly on the hawkish end to say the least..

War: jan19

the realities of getting invaded: “Two of my sons work as day labourers, but they don’t make more than 150 Afghanis (\$1.68) a day; not even enough to buy food for the day. It has been months since we tasted a fruit or meat,” he said; Climate scientists have attributed the recent weather anomalies to polar vortex disruptions

Located at the foot of the formidable Hindu Kush mountains, their town is no stranger to harsh winter. In fact, the heavy snow replenishes groundwater and can be beneficial to agriculture.

“We are happy it is snowing, it is a gift from God and it will be useful for wells and farmers, but we are very concerned about how will we stay warm as the temperatures fall,” Shahin says. “We can barely afford to buy food,” he added solemnly.

“If we buy coal and wood, then we won’t be able to buy food. The money my husband sends us is not sufficient to even cover basic requirements,” Maryam told Al Jazeera. Her husband works in a neighbouring country.

As the wife of a former soldier with the United States-backed Afghan government, she requested anonymity to avoid Taliban reprisal.

“After the fall of Kabul, my husband was hunted by the Taliban and had to escape to a neighbouring country. For a while, we survived on his savings, and then on charity. He sends us money when he has work, but we can’t afford a bukharī this winter,” she said.

Climate scientists have attributed the recent weather anomalies to [polar vortex disruptions](#), “as a result of which, strong arctic winds flow much farther from the North Pole and bring masses of cold air to our region,” explained Najibullah Sadid, an Afghan climate expert and associate researcher at the University of Stuttgart.

He shared that prediction models estimated that the cold wave would last until the end of January or the first week of February, before the weather returns to average conditions.

“Afghanistan, like other countries, is witnessing a rise in the number of extreme events. This is much to do with climate change as more sun energy is observed by the Earth’s atmosphere that in turn increases the dynamic of atmospheric activities such as heatwaves, rapid rains, etc,” he said, adding that a lack of preparedness for such events could have disastrous consequences for Afghans.

Suspension of NGO services

International sanctions and banking restrictions imposed on the Taliban when they took over the country in August 2021 have triggered an economic crisis, propelling an already distressed country into catastrophe.

[aljazeera.com/news/2023/1/17/afghans-reel-from-exceptionally-cold-winter](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/1/17/afghans-reel-from-exceptionally-cold-winter)

history, rome: more on roman roads



crisis of the third century: Marcus Aurelius Mausaeus Carausius (died 293) was a military commander of the Roman Empire in the 3rd century. He was a Menapian from Belgic Gaul, [1] who usurped power in 286, during the Carausian Revolt, declaring himself emperor in Britain and northern Gaul (Imperium Britanniarum).

Marcus Aurelius Mausaeus Carausius (died 293) was a military commander of the Roman Empire in the 3rd century. He was a Menapian from Belgic Gaul,[1] who usurped power in 286, during the Carausian Revolt, declaring himself emperor in Britain and northern Gaul (Imperium Britanniarum). He did this only 13 years after the Gallic Empire of the Batavian Postumus was ended in 273. He held power for seven years, fashioning the name "Emperor of the North" for himself, before being assassinated by his finance minister Allectus.

gaul below

Conquest by Rome^{[[edit](#)]}

Main article: [Gallic Wars](#)

Gauls in Rome

The Roman proconsul and general Julius Caesar pushed his army into Gaul in 58 BC, ostensibly to assist Rome's Gaulish allies against the migrating [Helvetii](#). With the help of various Gallic clans (e.g. the [Aedui](#)) he managed to conquer nearly all of Gaul. While their military was just as strong as the Romans', the internal division between the Gallic tribes guaranteed an easy victory for Caesar, and [Vercingetorix](#)'s attempt to unite the Gauls against Roman invasion came too late.^{[24][25]} Julius Caesar was checked by Vercingetorix at a [siege of Gergovia](#), a fortified town in the center of Gaul. Caesar's alliances with many Gallic clans broke. Even the Aedui, their most faithful supporters, threw in their lot with the Arverni but the ever-loyal [Remi](#) (best known for its cavalry) and [Lingones](#) sent troops to support Caesar. The [Germani](#) of the [Ubii](#) also sent cavalry, which Caesar equipped with Remi horses. Caesar captured Vercingetorix in the [Battle of Alesia](#), which ended the majority of Gallic resistance to Rome.

As many as a million people (probably 1 in 5 of the Gauls) died, another million were [enslaved](#),^[26] 300 clans were subjugated and 800 cities were destroyed during the Gallic Wars.^[27] The entire population of the city of Avaricum (Bourges) (40,000 in all) were slaughtered.^[28] Before Julius Caesar's campaign against the Helvetii (Switzerland), the Helvetians had numbered 263,000, but afterwards only 100,000 remained, most of whom Caesar took as [slaves](#).^[29]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaul>

The Roman [Crisis of the Third Century](#) continued as the Emperor [Valerian](#) was defeated and captured by the [Sasanian Empire](#) of [Persia](#) in the [Battle of Edessa](#), together with a large part of the Roman field army in the east

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallic_Empire

. In 2005, the remnants of the [Upper Germanic & Rhaetian Limes](#) were inscribed on the [List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites](#) as *Frontiers of the Roman Empire*.^[1] In 2021, the [Lower Germanic Limes](#) were separately inscribed on the World Heritage List.

^[2] The [Saalburg](#) is a reconstructed fortification and museum of the Limes near [Frankfurt](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limes_Germanicus

Marcus Aurelius Mausaeus Carausius (died 293) was a military commander of the [Roman Empire](#) in the 3rd century. He was a [Menapian](#) from [Belgic Gaul](#),^[1] who [usurped](#) power in 286, during the [Carausian Revolt](#), declaring himself emperor in [Britain](#) and northern [Gaul](#) (Imperium Britanniarum). He did this only 13 years after the [Gallic Empire](#) of the [Batavian Postumus](#) was ended in 273. He held power for seven years, fashioning the name "Emperor of the North" for himself, before being assassinated by his finance minister [Allectus](#).

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carausius>

Britannic Empire[[edit](#)]

Having warded off a threat to his power, Carausius began to entertain visions of legitimacy and official recognition. He minted his own coins and brought their value into

line with Roman issues as well as acknowledging and honouring Maximian and then [Diocletian](#). This suggests that he would have been very willing to participate in a rapprochement, if the others had agreed. He appears to have appealed to native British dissatisfaction with Roman rule: he issued coins with legends such as *Restitutor Britanniae* (Restorer of Britain) and *Genius Britanniae* (Spirit of Britain). Previously, Britain had been part of the [Gallic Empire](#) established by [Postumus](#) in 260, which had also included Gaul and [Hispania](#) and had only been restored by [Aurelian](#) in 274. A milestone from [Carlisle](#) with his name on it suggests that the whole of [Roman Britain](#) was in Carausius' grasp.^[7]

Recovery of the Roman Empire^[edit]

In 293 [Constantius Chlorus](#), now the western Caesar, isolated Carausius by retaking the territory he held in Gaul. Constantius next besieged the port of Bononia, building a [mole](#) across the harbour mouth to prevent the rebels from escaping by sea and ensure they could not receive maritime aid, and invaded Batavia in the Rhine delta, securing his rear against Carausius's Frankish allies. However, it was impossible to mount an invasion of Britain until a suitable fleet could be built.^[8] Carausius, who had been in power for seven years, was assassinated by his subordinate [Allectus](#), who assumed command.^[9]

Coin of Constantius Chlorus

Three years later, in 296, the reconquest of Britain began. With Maximian holding the Rhine frontier, Constantius divided his fleet into several divisions. He led one division himself from Bononia; another, sailing from [Le Havre](#), was commanded by [Asclepiodotus](#), prefect of the [Praetorian Guard](#).^[10] Allectus stationed his fleet at the [Isle of Wight](#), but fog allowed Asclepiodotus's ships to pass the defenders unseen. Asclepiodotus landed in the vicinity of [Southampton](#) and burned his ships. The rebels were forced to retreat from the coast, but in doing so, fell into the hands of another division and were routed. Allectus himself was killed in the battle, having removed all insignia in the hope that his body would not be identified.^[11] Archaeology suggests that [Calleva Atrebatum](#) ([Silchester](#)) was the site of his defeat.^[12] A group of Roman troops, who had been separated from the main body by the fog during the channel crossing, caught up with the remnants of Allectus's men, mostly Franks, at Londinium ([London](#)), and massacred them.^[13] Constantius himself, it seems, did not reach Britain until it was all over, and the panegyrist claims he was welcomed by the Britons as a liberator.^[14] At some point following the island's recovery by the Empire, the [Diocletian Reforms](#) were introduced: Britain as a whole became the [Diocese of the Britains](#) under the administration of the [Prefecture of the Gauls](#) based in [Augusta Treverorum](#) ([Trier](#)) and was divided from two provinces into four or five.^[citation needed]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carausian_revolt

late Empire's 113 provinces were interconnected by 372 great roads comprising more than 400,000 kilometres



The Roman Empire in the time of [Hadrian](#) (r. 117-138), showing the network of main Roman roads.



War, markets, jan19 Europe to Buy Refined Russian Oil from India Because of Sanctions

investmentwatchblogdotcom/europe-to-buy-refined-russian-oil-from-india-because-of-sanctions/

markets, crypto: Genesis 'days away' from bankruptcy after steep losses-owes 3 Billion jan19

war, markets: Uh oh...Ahead of erdogon attack, China is now saying: The US must answer for its oil theft in Syria

investmentwatchblogdotcom/china-the-us-must-answer-for-its-oil-theft-in-syria/

war: New Zealand Prime Minister suddenly resigns, in tears, jan19

Ardern became an inspiration to women around the world after winning the top job in 2017 at the relatively young age of 37.

The following year, she became just the second world leader to give birth while holding office. When she brought her infant daughter to the floor of the UN General Assembly in New York in 2018, it brought smiles to people everywhere.

Fighting back tears, Ardern told reporters in Napier that Feb. 7 will be her last day as prime minister.

"I am entering now my sixth year in office, and for each of those years, I have given my absolute all," she said.

The heated emotions around the coronavirus debate led to a level of vitriol directed at Ardern that was rarely been seen by former New Zealand leaders. This year, Ardern was forced to cancel an annual barbecue she hosts due to security fears.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/jacinda-ardern-resigns-1.6718695>

war, source: Visualizing The World's Top 25 Fleets Of Combat Tanks

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/top-25-fleets-of-combat-tanks/>

war, tech: High-Powered Laser Steers Lightning Bolts For First Time, the first lightning based invention since benjamin franklin in 1750, following an experiment flying a kite with a large metal key during a thunderstorm.

Laser lightning protection could one day guard critical ground-based systems. Franklin's 18th-century innovation has now met 21st-century technology.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41566-022-01139-z>

censorship: **weak leadership forced to include amendment that could institutionalize censorship on social media by holding senior execs personally liable for the distribution of harmful content. Article said amendment could result in situations where it would be considered 'harmful' to distribute videos of migrants crossing into the country, and thus the video would be throttled or removed. This example shocked me, confirming my prior suspicions that they would use the public will to protect children online as a means to censor information that threatens the status quo.**

It's the latest change to a key piece of legislation that has been a long time in the making. As the bill has evolved, it's provoked debate on the best way to keep people – especially children – safe online. There are many critics of the bill – both those who think it is draconian and poses a risk to cybersecurity and freedom of speech, and those who believe it isn't far-reaching enough when it comes to cracking down on content that could pose harm to internet users. It also opens the door to real-world consequences beyond monetary fines.

Social media platforms will be required by law to vet the ages of users and publish risk assessments about the threats their services pose to younger users. How they will verify the ages of users will be a challenge that tech platforms have to figure out an answer to.

A number of new criminal offenses will be introduced under the bill, including the sharing of pornographic deepfakes (digitally generated images of real people), cyberflashing (sending pornographic images without consent) and downblousing (taking and sharing images down women's tops).

The draft text of the bill names UK media watchdog Ofcom as the regulator in charge of holding tech companies accountable.

The bill will give Ofcom the power to fine tech companies £18 million (\$22.2 million) or 10% of their annual revenue, whichever is higher, if they fail to remove illegal content. It will also have the power to block sites and services.

According to January's amendment, managers at tech companies will also be liable for failing to protect children from exposure to harmful content. This could lead to prosecution and jail sentences of up to two years.

One major criticism of the Online Safety Bill is that it poses a threat to freedom of expression due to its potential for censoring legal content.

Rights organizations strongly opposed the requirement for tech companies to crack down on content that was harmful but not illegal. An amendment in November 2022 removed mention of "lawful but harmful" content from the text, instead obliging tech companies to introduce more

sophisticated filter systems to protect people from exposure to content that could be deemed harmful. Ofcom will ensure platforms are upholding their terms of service.

Meanwhile, concerns over censorship continue. An amendment to the bill introduced this week would make sharing videos that showed migrants crossing the channel between France and the UK in "a positive light" illegal. Tech companies would be required to proactively prevent users from seeing this content.

There has also been tension between digital rights groups and child safety groups over the topic of encryption. In [a letter to the government](#) in November, over 70 organizations, including cybersecurity experts, presented their concerns over the wording of the bill. They were worried that it posed a threat to end-to-end encryption, forcing tech companies to create backdoors that could be exploited by criminals.

Representatives for Meta, Twitter, Google and Pinterest didn't respond to individual requests for comment about their positions on the bill.

Censorship: CGT union "threatened to cut off electricity supplies to lawmakers and billionaires."jan19

Labour Ministry estimates show increasing the retirement age by two years would bring an additional 17.7 billion euros in annual pension contributions -- allowing the pension fund to survive until 2027.

AP reported many forms of transportation are either delayed or halted today.

A majority of trains around France are canceled, including some international connections, according to the SNCF rail authority. About 20% of flights out of Paris' Orly Airport are canceled and airlines are warning of delays.

[Bloomberg](#) pointed out energy shipments might be affected.

Fuel deliveries from French refineries, including those owned by TotalEnergies SE and Exxon Mobil Corp., will also be affected by the 24-hour strike. And as many as 70% of nursery and primary school teachers will stay home, closing many schools, according to unions in the education sector.

The planned changes provide that workers must have worked for at least 43 years to be entitled to full pension. For those who do not fulfil that condition, like many women who interrupted their career to raise their children or those who studied for a long time and started working late, the retirement age would remain unchanged at 67.

History, germany: why the central europeans empires lacked overseas colonies: "Unlike their Western European (United Kingdom, Netherland et al.) and Eastern European (Russia) counterparts, the Central European nations never had any notable colonies (either overseas or adjacent) due to their inland location and other factors."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Europe

Before 1870, the industrialization that had started to develop in Northwestern and Central Europe and the United States did not extend in any significant way to the rest of the world. Even in [Eastern Europe](#), industrialization lagged far behind. [Russia](#), for example, remained largely rural and agricultural, and its autocratic rulers kept the peasants in serfdom.^[26] The concept of Central Europe was already known at the beginning of the 19th century,^[27] but its real life began in the 20th century and

immediately became an object of intensive interest. However, the very first concept mixed science, politics and economy – it was strictly connected with the intensively growing German economy and its aspirations to dominate a part of European continent called *Mitteleuropa*. The German term denoting Central Europe was so fashionable that other languages started referring to it when indicating territories from [Rhine](#) to [Vistula](#), or even [Dnieper](#), and from the [Baltic Sea](#) to the [Balkans](#).^[28] An example of that-time vision of Central Europe may be seen in [Joseph Partsch](#)'s book of 1903.^[29]

On 21 January 1904, *Mitteleuropäischer Wirtschaftsverein* (Central European Economic Association) was established in [Berlin](#) with economic integration of Germany and Austria-Hungary (with eventual extension to [Switzerland](#), [Belgium](#) and the [Netherlands](#)) as its main aim. Another time, the term Central Europe became connected to the German plans of political, economic and cultural domination.

History, fall of rome, church:
Frankish Empire (Latin: Imperium Francorum), was the largest post-Roman barbarian kingdom in Western Europe. It was ruled by the Franks (a West Germanic people) during late antiquity and the Early Middle Ages. After the Treaty of Verdun in 843, West Francia became the predecessor of France, and East Francia became that of Germany. Francia was among the last surviving Germanic kingdoms from the Migration Period era before its partition in 843.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Migration_Period

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_Estate

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_Diet_\(Holy_Roman_Empire\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_Diet_(Holy_Roman_Empire))

The barbarian invasions began in the late 3rd century

The **Migration Period**, also known as the **Barbarian Invasions**, was a period in [European history](#) marked by large-scale migrations that saw the [fall of the Western Roman Empire](#) and subsequent settlement of its former territories by various tribes, and the establishment of the [post-Roman kingdoms](#).

History, war: **Black markets**[\[edit\]](#)

See also: [Second economy of the Soviet Union](#)

As a result of the deficiencies of the official economy, [black markets](#) were created that were often supplied by goods stolen from the public sector.^{[190][191]} The [second, "parallel economy"](#) flourished throughout the Bloc because of rising unmet state consumer needs.^[192] Black and gray markets for foodstuffs, goods, and cash arose.^[192] Goods included household goods, medical supplies, clothes, furniture, cosmetics and toiletries in chronically short supply through official outlets.^[188]

Many farmers concealed actual output from purchasing agencies to sell it illicitly to urban consumers.^[188] Hard foreign currencies were highly sought after, while highly valued Western items functioned as a medium of exchange or bribery in Stalinist countries, such as in [Romania](#), where [Kent](#) cigarettes served as an unofficial extensively used currency to buy goods and services.^[193] Some service workers [moonlighted](#) illegally providing services directly to customers for payment.^[193]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Bloc

Germany, holy roman empire, history: Thirty Years War of Central Europe: "While most modern commentators accept differences over religion and Imperial authority were important factors in causing the war, they argue its scope and extent were driven by the contest for European dominance between Habsburg-ruled Spain and Austria, and the French House of Bourbon.[20]"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirty_Years%27_War

history, africa: Ethiopia has evidence of written language at a monastery dating back to the year 500

The [Derg](#) overthrew the [Ethiopian Empire](#) and Emperor [Haile Selassie](#) in a [coup d'état](#) on 12 September 1974, establishing Ethiopia as a [Marxist-Leninist state](#) under a military junta and [provisional government](#).

War, history: The Derg overthrew the Ethiopian Empire and Emperor Haile Selassie in a coup d'état on 12 September 1974, establishing

Ethiopia as a Marxist-Leninist state under a military junta and provisional government.

Markets: U.S. natural gas prices are back to reflecting the domestic supply and demand balances, shaking off - for now - the geopolitical premium that ruled the energy and natural gas markets throughout most of 2022 after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February., Jan 11, 2023

U.S. natural gas prices are back to reflecting the domestic supply and demand balances, shaking off - for now - the geopolitical premium that ruled the energy and natural gas markets throughout most of 2022 after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February.

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/Gas-Prices/Geopolitical-Risk-Premium-In-US-Gas-Prices-Is-Evaporating.html>

crypto, markets: FTX Says \$413 Million Worth Of Cryptocurrency Was Stolen From Failed Exchange

[censorship, corruption](#): **Secretive Surveillance Program Captured 150 Million International Money Transfers Spanning 20 Countries: Sen. Wyden (related to "just took the blakc guy's money without any evidence, then didn't give it back....")**

A secretive financial surveillance database established by the Arizona attorney general's office in 2014 **has ballooned into a behemoth tool used by more than 600 law-enforcement entities**, which can search for more than **150 million money transfers** between people in the US and more than 20 countries, according to internal program documents obtained by Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR).

The database is called TRAC, or Transnational Record Analysis Center, and was established as part of a settlement reached with Western Union to combat human trafficking and drug runners from Mexico

What's more, **many of the subpoenas given to TRAC were extremely broad** - often requiring all data on transfers between certain places above the \$500 threshold, according to the documents - even in cases where **an American living in a border state sends \$500 or more to another American living elsewhere in the country.**

[Euronet said it received a subpoena in 2021 demanding that data on some international money transfers be turned over to TRAC. \(Photo: Beata Zawrzel/NurPhoto/Getty Images\)](#)

Sen. Wyden thinks differently, saying TRAC allows the government to "serve itself an all-you-can-eat buffet of Americans' personal financial data while bypassing the normal protections for Americans' privacy."

*Internal records, including TRAC meeting minutes and copies of 140 subpoenas from the Arizona attorney general, were obtained by the American Civil Liberties Union and reviewed by The Wall Street Journal. They show that **any authorized law-enforcement agency can query the data without a warrant** to examine the transactions of people inside the U.S. for evidence of [money laundering](#) and other crimes. One slideshow prepared by a TRAC investigator showed how **the program's data could be used to scan for categories such as "Middle Eastern/Arabic names" in bulk transaction records.** - WSJ*

"Ordinary people's private financial records are being siphoned indiscriminately into a massive database, with access given to virtually any cop who wants it," said Nathan Freed Wessler, deputy director of the ACLU's Speech, Privacy and Technology Project. "This program should never have been launched, and **it must be shut down now.**"

The program was established due to lax rules surrounding money-transfer services companies. While banks have to monitor transactions for suspicious activity - and report over \$10,000 in cash transactions, companies such as Western Union and MoneyGram don't have to. Now, **customer transactions above \$500 are available in the TRAC database.**

What's more, **Wyden uncovered that the federal government has participated in TRAC**, including the Department of Homeland Security's Investigations division, collected around **six million records of money transfers** from Western Union and Maxitransfers since 2019.

"The scope of this surveillance program and federal agencies' role is far greater than initially revealed," said Wyden in a letter asking the DOJ inspector general to investigate the FBI and DEA's involvement with the program.

The US Government used forfeiture during the [Prohibition](#) years (1920-1933).^[9] Police seized vehicles, equipment, cash and other property from [bootleggers](#).^[8] When

Prohibition ended in 1933, much of the forfeiture activity ended as well.^[10] Modern forfeiture was an "infrequent resort" until the last few decades.^[10]

War on Drugs (1980-present)^[edit]

Since 1980, the [War on Drugs](#) has led to substantially increased civil forfeiture by federal, state, and local government.^{[9][11]} The [market for illegal drugs in the United States](#) is large: the [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) estimates the annual profit from selling illegal drugs is \$12 billion.^[9] However, it has become harder for criminal organizations to launder drug money by means of the financial system; drug cartels have thus preferred bulk cash payments.^[12] The initial intent behind increased civil forfeiture was thus to use forfeitures as a weapon against drug kingpins, similarly to how forfeiture was used to fight alcohol trafficking during the [Prohibition era](#).^[13]

According to journalist [Sarah Stillman](#), a major turning point in forfeiture activity was the passage of the [Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984](#).^[14] This law permitted local and federal law enforcement agencies to share seized assets.^[10] According to Stillman, civil forfeiture allowed federal and local governments to "extract swift penalties from white-collar criminals and offer restitution to victims of fraud".^[10] From 1985 to 1993, authorities confiscated \$3 billion of cash and other property based on the federal *Asset Forfeiture Program*, which included both civil and criminal forfeitures.^[14] The methods were supported by the Reagan administration as a crime fighting strategy:

It's now possible for a drug dealer to serve time in a forfeiture-financed prison after being arrested by agents driving a forfeiture-provided automobile while working in a forfeiture-funded sting operation.

— [Reagan](#) attorney general [Richard Thornburgh](#) in 1989.^[10]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_forfeiture_in_the_United_States#Legal_origins

After hours of being detained, Johnson returned home the next day - without the money, and without the truck. He was never charged with a crime.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11450893/Arizona-cops-seized-40-000-cash-black-trucking-boss-traveling-buy-new-rig.html>

Markets, war: U.S. natural gas prices are back to reflecting the domestic supply and demand balances, shaking off - for now - the geopolitical premium that ruled the energy and natural gas markets throughout most of 2022 after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February., Jan 11, 2023

U.S. natural gas prices are back to reflecting the domestic supply and demand balances, shaking off - for now - the geopolitical premium that ruled the energy and natural gas markets throughout most of 2022 after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February.

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/Gas-Prices/Geopolitical-Risk-Premium-In-US-Gas-Prices-Is-Evaporating.html>

war: jan18 Just more escalation..front page for atw

US, Allies to Ramp Up Military Aid to Ukraine

Gen. Milley Meets Top Ukrainian Commander in Poland

US Sends Artillery Shells Stored in Israel and S. Korea to Ukraine

Kissinger Flips, Says Ukraine Should Join NATO

Ukrainian Volunteers Say Were Unprepared for Battle Around Bakhmut

*Zelensky Advisor Quits After
Comments on Dnipro Caused
Backlash*

*Saudi Arabia Open to
Trading in Currencies
Besides Dollar*

*Saudi Airstrikes Killed at
Least 155 Yemeni Civilians in
2022*

*US, Taiwan Conclude Four
Days of Trade Talks in
Taipei*

War: jan18 they're saying that the death toll for russian troops has risen to 116 000, all due to westerns arms and intelligence..this is the ukrinian military sayings this though, dated today on dp

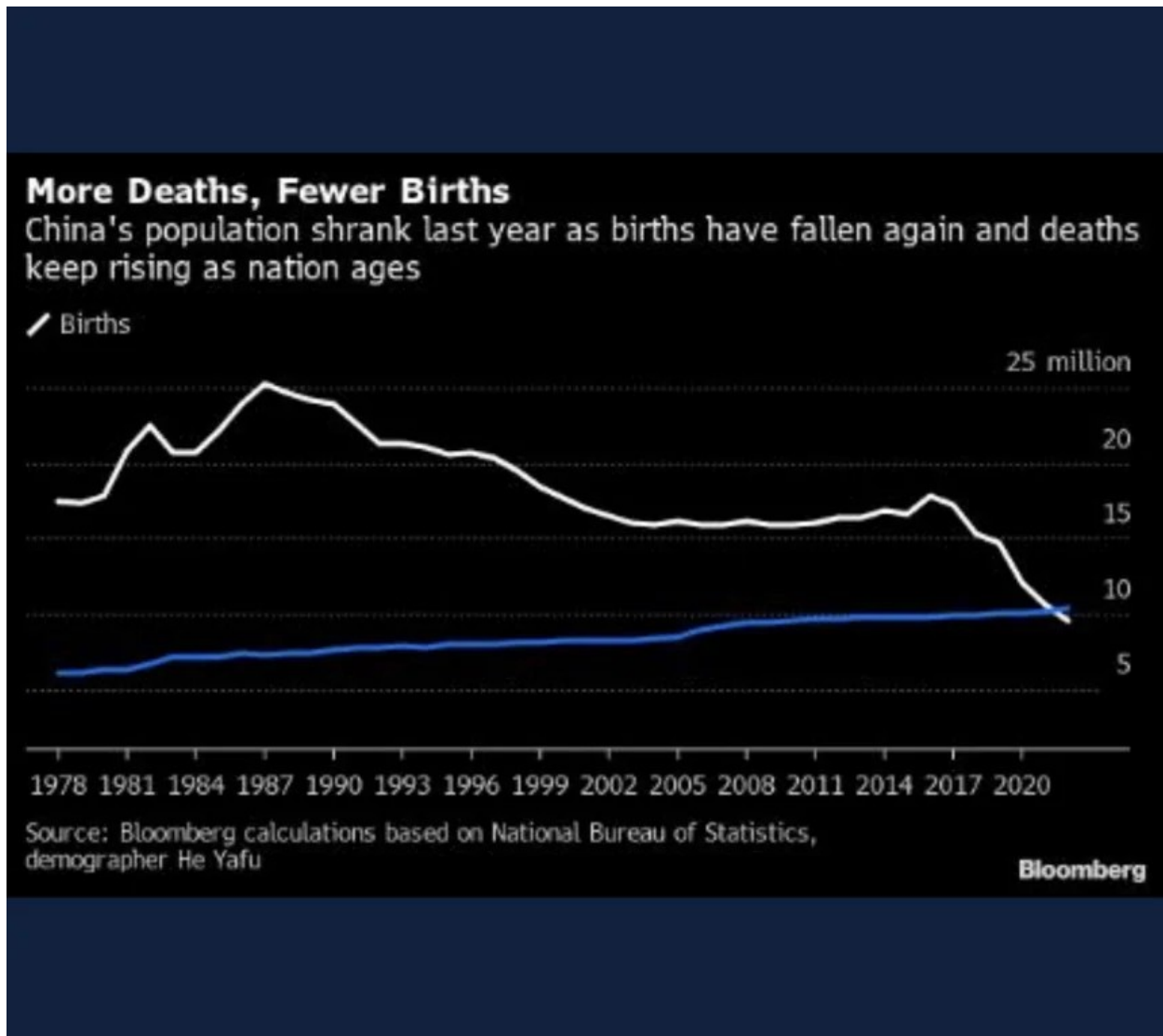
War, tech: “Future Soldier” is a modernization effort launched in 2020 to achieve the “most radical transformation” of the British Army within 20 years., dp

War, Africa, Erdogan: Ankara donates weapons to drc congo..

Turkey’s donation comes less than a month after the UN lifted sanctions on FARDC that required supplier countries to refer to the UN’s sanctions committee on DRC before shipping arms to the DRC. The notification system for sending arms to Congo ended on Tuesday 20 December, and Turkey did not even elaborate on the content of its arms to the public.

War: Russia blamed Armenia last week for a breakdown in bilateral peace talks with Azerbaijan.jan18

Vaccine, censorship, china, population, war, history:
China's population shrinks for first time in over 60 years (since 1961)



China's population has fallen for the first time since 1961 when the country battled the worst famine in its modern history under Mao Zedong's disastrous agricultural policy.

The **Great Chinese Famine** ([Chinese](#): 三年大饥荒; [lit.](#) 'three years of great famine') was a period between 1959 and 1961 in the [history of the People's Republic of China](#) (PRC) characterized by widespread [famine](#).^{[2][3][4][5][6]} Some scholars have also included the years 1958 or 1962.^{[7][8][9][10]} It is widely regarded as the deadliest famine and one of the greatest [man-made disasters](#) in human history..
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Chinese_Famine

source: <https://downdetector.com/> ; tells you when something is down, like a service or website or whatever

downdetector.com/status/zelle/

having the same issue! had a transfer yesterday, woke up to a negative balance and a \$10 overdraft fee. i use bank of america and live in nevada. i see a ton of us are having the same issue.

downdetector.com/status/bank-of-america/

Top Heart Surgeon: This Simple Trick Helps Empty Your Bowels Every Morning
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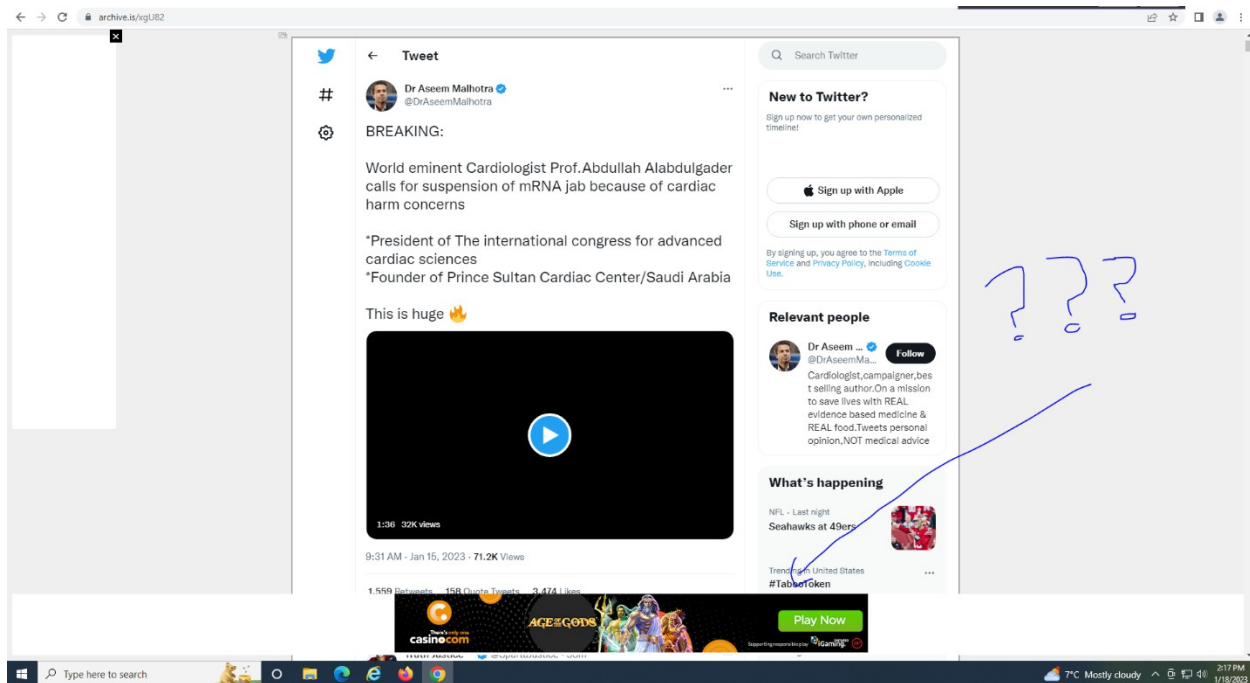
Top Heart Surgeon: This Simple Trick Helps Empty Your Bowels Every Morning
By GutHealthWellness.com

I woke up to all of my money gone!!!

Ok, it's not just me. I was in full panic mode. Money is missing, there are mystery overdraft coverages from my savings. I have repeatedly called to talk to someone and haven't been able to. I've had an account for over 20 years and this has NEVER happened.

See also The money printer is not going brr. It is going berserk.
They are saying it is a glitch. WTF?

Censorship: removed tweet still available on fake archive (it literally profits off every page on the entire internet--even pages that have bypassed a pay/membership wall)



and for anybody who decides to read the comments, they will see a bunch of irrelevant posts or links to half-truths or, just meaningless stuff that takes you nowhere.

My take?

This plays into the anti-vax narrative perfectly before they release the bad one. They WANT people to question them now. It will just make it worse when the inevitable event happens. Saudi Arabia is a strong ally of NATO, and thus should be expected to be playing into the official narrative, and not against it.

And very strange google page for his name. All tiktok and bitchute..

← → C google.com/search?q=Cardiologist+Prof.Abdullah+Alabdulgader&rlz=1C1CHF_enCA758CA758&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Google Cardiologist Prof Abdullah Alabdulgader X ↻ 🔍

https://www.tiktok.com › video ⓘ Time Remaining 58:31 Other Options End Session

World Eminent Cardiologist Prof. Abdullah Alabdulgader ...
3 days ago — World Eminent **Cardiologist Prof. Abdullah Alabdulgader** "President of The International congress for advanced cardiac sciences" "Founder of ...

https://www.bitchute.com › video ⓘ

World eminent Cardiologist Prof.Abdullah ... - BitChute
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https://9gag.com › gag › amVtLz5 ⓘ


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Huge: World Eminent Cardiologist Abdullah Alabdulgader ...
3 days ago — Dr. **Alabdulgader** is a senior congenital **cardiologist**/electrophysiologist who has obtained multiple board certifications and memberships from ...

http://kr.net.sa › koo › speaker › di-rollin-inman-mccratty ⓘ

PROF. ABDULLAH AL ABDULGADER | King of Organs
Senior Scientist & Congenital **Cardiologist** and Electrophysiologist (Asthrophysical **cardiologist**/Congress Founder and President ...



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← → C google.com/search?q=Cardiologist+Prof.Abdullah+Alabdulgader&rlz=1C1CHF_enCA758CA758&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Google Cardiologist Prof Abdullah Alabdulgader X ↻ 🔍

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Ian McDermott on Twitter: "World eminent Cardiologist Prof ...
 World eminent **Cardiologist Prof.Abdullah Alabdulgader** calls for suspension of mRNA jab because of cardiac harm concerns...
Twitter · 2 days ago

https://www.researchgate.net › profile › Abdullah-Alabdul... ⓘ

Abdullah Alabdulgader Prince Sultan Cardiac Center
Between March 1997 and February 2000, 740 children with congenital heart disease (CHD) were studied in the Paediatric **Cardiology** Unit of King Fahad Hospital, ...

https://www.youtube.com › watch ⓘ

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Censorship, media: both similar countries, both different immigration policies (sweden vs hungary)

↻ claushetting Retweeted

 **David Atherton** @DaveAtherton20 · 15h
I can't quite put my finger on it.

WHY THE DIFFERENCE?

	<p><u>Sweden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 236 bombings in 11 months in 2019- 78 rapes per 100,000 people.
	<p><u>Hungary.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 0 bombings- 3.9 rapes per 100,000 people.

War: Kissinger Flips, Says Ukraine Should Join NATO In Davos Speech jan18

Markets, energy, war: Pierre Andurand predicting \$140 oil in 2023 (highly educated, very smart man in his prime with strong recent and past success; also called 2014 oil collapse by outright going short ahead); Paris-based International Energy Agency says oil demand forecasted to reach record levels due to china reopening
jan18

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_Andurand

FINANCIALS

JANUARY 6, 2015 7:41 AM UPDATED 8 YEARS AGO

UPDATE 1-Hedge fund manager Andurand strikes gold again by betting on oil crash

The London-based fund had \$400 million of assets under management at the start of this year, the source said. The return of 37.9 percent was net of all management and performance fees. Returns not including performance fees were 47.4 percent.

The fund was up only slightly for the year at the end of October, when Andurand predicted at London's Oil & Money conference that the market could drop to \$50 a barrel -- well below the roughly \$85 a barrel North Sea Brent was trading at the time.

THE EPOCH TIMES	
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Media, censorship: "Brought To Justice": Italian Mafia Boss Arrested At Hospital After Three Decades On The Run, "I filled a cemetery, all by myself," he is said to have once claimed...

Markets, energy, war, spr: jan18 Crisis Over? Europe's Gas Stocks At Seasonal Record High

LONDON, Jan 17 (Reuters) - Northwest Europe is half-way through the winter heating season and gas inventories are at a record high following an extended period of exceptionally mild temperatures since the middle of December.

Preparation and luck have combined to rescue Europe from potential gas shortages this winter:

- Preparation by policymakers and forward-looking gas markets ensured inventories began the winter season at the one of the highest levels on record.
- Market-driven high prices have significantly reduced gas and electricity consumption by major industrial customers and more modestly by residential and commercial users.
- Luck in the form of exceptionally mild weather has transformed comfortable stocks in mid-December into plentiful inventories by mid-January.

At Frankfurt in Germany, a proxy for the densely populated northwest Europe mega-region, half of winter heating demand occurs on average on or before Jan. 15.

On Jan. 15, inventories across the European Union and the United Kingdom amounted to 922 terawatt-hours (TWh), according to Gas Infrastructure Europe ("Aggregated gas storage inventory", GIE, January 17).

Stocks were 268 TWh (+41% or +2.57 standard deviations) above the prior ten-year average, up from a surplus of 173

TWh (+23% or +1.58 standard deviations) when the warm spell began on Dec. 19 and 92 TWh (+10% or +0.86 standard deviations) at the start of the winter season on Oct. 1.

Chartbook: [European gas inventories](#)

Heating demand started this winter close to the long-term average, with an unusually mild October offset by colder-than-normal temperatures in the first part of December.

By Dec. 19, Frankfurt had experienced a total of 675 heating degree days, very close to the long-term average of 682.

Between Dec. 19 and Jan. 15, however, the region experienced an exceptional and extended period of much warmer temperatures that reduced heating demand significantly.

Frankfurt experienced an additional 184 heating degree days, the lowest this century, and compared with a seasonal average of 341.

Cumulative heating demand so far this winter was 20% below the long-term seasonal average by Jan. 15 compared with a 5% deficit by Dec. 19.

As a result of mild weather, gas inventories depleted by just 18 TWh over the 27 days ending on Jan. 15, compared with an average ten-year depletion of 113 TWh.

EMERGENCY OVER

Stocks are now projected to fall to a low of 612 TWh before winter ends, up from a projected low of 518 TWh on Dec. 19 and 440 TWh when the winter season started on Oct. 1.

Inventories are on course to end the winter at the highest level on record, with storage sites still more than 54% full.

Prices have already slumped to redirect more liquefied natural gas (LNG) to other regions of the world, encourage more consumption in Europe and stem inventory accumulation.

Futures prices for deliveries in March 2023 have halved to 56 euros per megawatt-hour from 110 euros on Dec. 19 and 177 euros at the start of winter.

Lower prices will buy back some consumption lost earlier this winter from the most price-sensitive customers directly exposed to wholesale markets, mostly power producers and energy-intensive industrial users.

Gas-fired electricity generators are likely to operate for more hours at the expense of coal-fired and fuel oil-fired competitors, absorbing some of the surplus.

Manufacturers of fertilizer, iron and steel, ceramics, glass and chemicals, as well as non-ferrous smelters, are likely to restart some idled capacity if prices remain lower.

Futures for gas delivered to Northwest Europe are now trading at a discount to gas delivered to Northeast Asia, from a premium over 11 euros per megawatt-hour on Dec. 19 and almost 43 euros at the beginning of winter.

Relatively lower European prices should reduce the incentive to maximise LNG inflows and redirect more gas to importers in East and South Asia, which will also limit the further build up of a surplus in Europe.

Related columns:

- [Europe's gas prices slump to moderate storage build](#) (Reuters, Jan. 4)

- Europe should thank mild autumn for averting gas crisis this winter (Reuters, Dec. 16)
- Germany's gas stocks should hold out despite inventory draw (Reuters, Dec. 15)
- Europe's gas stocks comfortable despite cold snap (Reuters, Dec. 14)
- Europe on course to end winter with plenty of gas (Reuters, Nov. 28)

John Kemp is a Reuters market analyst. The views expressed are his own

Markets: "I Am Taking This Very Seriously": BlackRock's Larry Fink Struggles With "Demonized" ESG Narrative

Iran, crypto: referring to Iran's Industry, Mines and Trade Ministry approving the use of crypto for imports in late August.

referring to Iran's Industry, Mines and Trade Ministry [approving the use of crypto for imports](#) in late August.

Iran's Industry, Mines and Trade Ministry has approved the use of cryptocurrency for imports into the country [amid](#) ongoing international trade sanctions.

[According](#) to local news [reports](#), Trade Minister Reza Fatemi Amin confirmed that detailed regulations have been approved outlining the use of cryptocurrencies for trade and supplying fuel and electricity to Bitcoin

BTC

\$20,942

and [crypto miners](#) in the country.

Amin outlined the regulatory change at an automotive industry exhibition on Sunday, just a week after the country had placed a first-ever import order for vehicles to the tune of \$10 million, [using cryptocurrency as a payment method](#). The Iranian trade ministry had previously indicated that the use of cryptocurrencies and smart contracts would be widely used in foreign trade by September 2022.

War: jan18 more U.S. open involvement in war.

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a Zero Hedge article. The article title is "Top US General Inspects Expanded Training Program Ukrainian Troops". The text discusses the Pentagon's training of Ukrainian troops, mentioning that the program is overseen by the 7th Army Training Command. It also includes a quote from Jeffrey Kaye (@jeff_kaye) on Twitter, who states: "As of Dec, the [U.S.] Army in Europe had trained about 3,000 Ukrainian soldiers." The tweet includes a photo of military vehicles. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.zerohedge.com/military/top-us-general-inspects-expanded-training-program-ukrainian-troops>. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the date as 1/18/2023 and the time as 11:45 AM.

"This is not a run of the mill rotation," Milley told commanders in a briefing during the visit. "This is one of those moments in time where if you want to make a difference, this is it."

But the [Associated Press](#) still confirmed severe reporting restrictions meant to safeguard the identities of the personnel present: "The reporters were allowed to follow Milley and watch his interactions with Ukrainian and U.S. troops and commanders, but were **not allowed to report specific conversations with the Ukraine forces or take any photos or video.**"

War: jan18 russia's statement about attacking decision making centers seems to be materializing: "government officials killed were Interior Minister Denis Monastyrsky, First Deputy Minister Yevheniy Yenin and State Secretary Yuriy Lubkovychis, according to confirmation by government statements. Monastyrsky's death marks the highest profile Ukrainian casualty since the Russian invasion began." many casualties died as well, but this is just the norm now in the ukraine, which is projected to be turned into rubble if the war conitnues on unabated



War, markets: US Producer Prices Plunge Most Since COVID Lockdowns jan18

War: jan18 Pentagon Forced To Tap Unreported Ammo Stockpile In Israel To Support Ukraine

Markets, inflation: jan18 Prices Will Keep Rising Despite 'Peak Inflation' Chatter, Warns Unilever CEO

Markets, tech: Microsoft CEO Confirms 10,000 Job Cuts As Tech Layoffs Intensify jan18

Censorship: Report Says 500 Advertisers Paused Spending At Twitter, Daily Revenue Plunges 40% jan18

Markets, fed, inflation, war: bullard implies 'pivot city' being medium-term future (next 2-3 years). "Pivot city" just a catchphrase for the fed facing a future where unprecedented unforeseen circumstances force them to change direction. "Bullard Repeats Rates "Almost" In Restrictive Territory, Helps Push Risk To Session Highs" (5% rates were crazy, and might not work, hence fed might be forced to change its mind, or 'pivot', again, and even maybe again, and again, resulting in this last fed up looking rates chart, but maybe that wouldn't work...) Might only be able to pivot one more time before it loses credibility in the eyes of the public

"We're almost into a zone that we could call restrictive - we're not quite there yet," Bullard said Wednesday in an online Wall Street Journal interview. Officials

want to ensure inflation will come down on a steady path to the 2% target. "We don't want to waiver on that," he said. Jan18

Germany, fall of rome, history: **In Italy, the Ostrogoths led by Theodoric the Great killed and replaced Odoacer, a Germanic soldier, erstwhile-leader of the foederati in Northern Italy, and the de facto ruler of Italy, who had deposed the last emperor of the Western Roman Empire, Romulus Augustulus, in 476.**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ostrogothic_Kingdom

Germany, fall of rome, history: **start here to learn the truth about germany: the germanic tribes, wiki**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germanic_peoples

history, holy roman empire, church: **more on papal states**

<https://www.thoughtco.com/the-papal-states-1789449#:~:text=The%20Papal%20States%20were%20territories,geographical%20boundaries%20of%20the%20region>

In 751 the Merovingian dynasty which had ruled the Germanic Franks was overthrown with the consent of the Papacy and the aristocracy, and Pepin the Short, son of Martel, was crowned King of the Franks.

Holy roman empire, history, church: the donation of constantine: more sick lies embedded at key junctures in history, those sort of crucible moments which form the foundation ofeverything

The text is purportedly a decree of [Roman Emperor](#) Constantine I, dated 30 March—a year mistakenly said to be both that of his fourth consulate (315) and that of the consulate of [Gallicanus](#) (317).^[4] In it "Constantine" professes Christianity (*confessio*) and entitles to Pope Sylvester several imperial insignia and privileges (*donatio*), as well as the [Lateran Palace](#). Rome, the rest of Italy, and the western provinces of the empire are made over to the papacy.^[5]

The text recounts a narrative founded on the 5th-century [hagiography](#) the *Acts of Sylvester*. This fictitious tale describes the sainted Pope Sylvester's rescue of the Romans from the depredations of a local dragon and the pontiff's miraculous cure of the emperor's [leprosy](#) by the [sacrament](#) of [baptism](#).^[5] The story was rehearsed by the *Liber Pontificalis*; by the later 8th century the dragon-slayer Sylvester and his [apostolic successors](#) were rewarded in the *Donation of Constantine* with [temporal powers](#) never in fact exercised by the historical [Bishops of Rome under Constantine](#).

In his gratitude, "Constantine" determined to bestow on the seat of Peter "power, and dignity of glory, vigor, and imperial honor," and "supremacy as well over the four principal sees: [Alexandria](#), [Antioch](#), [Jerusalem](#), and [Constantinople](#), as also over all the churches of God in the whole earth". For the upkeep of the church of Saint Peter and that of Saint Paul, he gave landed estates "in [Judea](#), [Greece](#), [Asia](#), [Thrace](#), [Africa](#), [Italy](#) and the various islands". To Sylvester and his successors he also granted imperial insignia, the tiara, and "the city of Rome, and all the provinces, places and cities of Italy and the western regions".^{[6][7]}

The *Donation* sought reduction in the authority of Constantinople; if Constantine had elevated Sylvester to imperial rank before the 330 inauguration of Constantinople, then Rome's patriarch had a lead of some fifteen years in the contest for primacy among the patriarchates. Implicitly, the papacy asserted its supremacy and prerogative to transfer the imperial seat; the papacy had consented to the *translatio imperii* to Byzantium by Constantine and it could wrest back the authority at will.^[5]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donation_of_Constantine

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrimony_of_Saint_Peter

history, markets, fall of rome: **Carolingian monetary system:currency reform carried out by Emperor Charlemagne around 793/794 was of crucial importance to the medieval monetary systems in what became the Holy Roman Empire and more generally affected European coinage for many centuries.**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carolingian_monetary_system

fall of rome, history: Constantine the Great, was Roman emperor from AD 306 to 337, and the first of which to convert to Christianity

war: jan17 **Sweden, Finland Must Send Up to 130 'Terrorists' to Turkey for NATO Bid
Zelensky Aide Resigns For Saying It Was 'Errant' Anti-Air Missile**

Markets, war: On Jan. 14, NatGas began flowing to Freeport and could reach as much as 69 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) on Tuesday, Reuters data showed.

However, Houston-based energy firm [Criterion Research](#) had this to say about the Freeport developments:

We noted that Freeport LNG began to receive marginal gas over the weekend, with 15-35 Mmcfd being delivered via Gulf South's Coastal Bend Header Pipeline. This is not the first time we've seen flows of that magnitude, with Freeport flowing similar volumes for two other periods since going offline in June 2022. Freeport representatives have continued to affirm the second half of the January restart timeline, officially laid out in December 2022. However, several outlets, including ours, have doubts about that possibility. Based on the latest imagery of the facility -- Freeport is still missing several key pieces of equipment needed for a restart that could delay initial liquefaction operations into February or March 2023.

 **Criterion Research** 
@PipelineFlows · [Follow](#)

As many have mentioned, Freeport LNG started to receive gas via the Gulf South Coastal Bend Header this weekend, but it's unclear if they are ready to liquefy gas yet based on the status of onsite repairs. Reach out to info@criterionrsch.com for more details. [#natgas](#) [#ongt](#) [#LNG](#)

Freeport LNG Terminal							
(in Mmcfd)	1/11	1/12	1/13	1/14	1/15	1/16	1/17
Coastal Bend Pipeline Receipts							
from TGP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
from NGPL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
from Gulf South	40	40	40	76	55	76	-
from HPL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
from FGT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
from Transco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
from Enterprise	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Coastal Bend Pipeline Receipts	40	40	40	76	55	76	-
TETCO via BIG Pipeline	6	12	4	-	-	-	-
TETCO via Stratton Ridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coastal Bend Del. To Freeport LNG	-	-	-	35	15	35	-
Total Freeport LNG Receipts	6	12	4	35	15	35	-

11:37 AM · Jan 17, 2023

 18  Reply  Share

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When will Freeport be fully back in-service? That's a difficult question, but when it does come online, it would be a bullish catalyst for NatGas.

 11,497  28

War: jan17 Russian, Belarusian Flags Banned From Australian Open

*"I call on Tennis Australia to **immediately enforce its 'neutral flag' policy,**"*

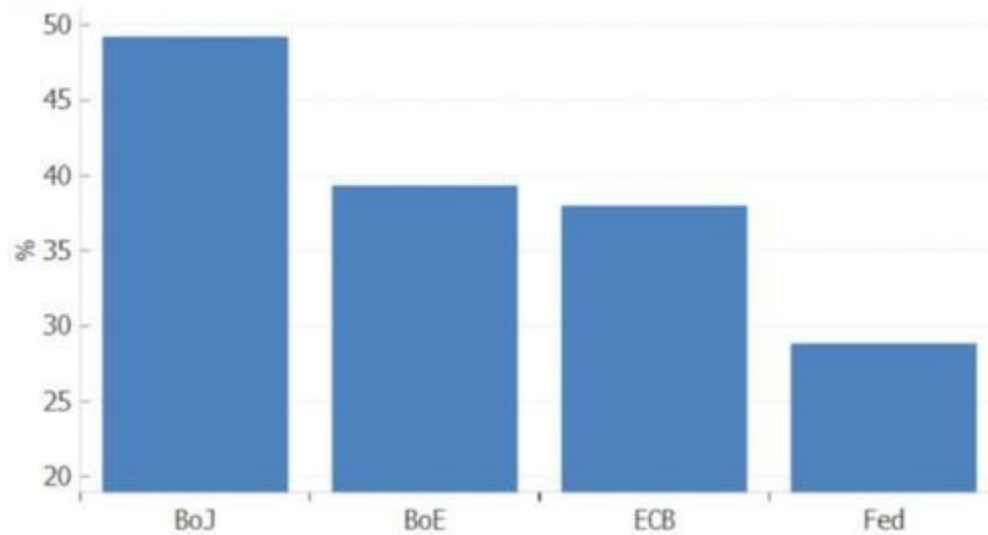
markets, policy: Acting Comptroller of the Currency Michael Hsum (2021, Janet Yellen):
"effective management is not infinitely scalable"
in reference to too-big-to-fail financial institutions jan17

Markets, war: Jan.17 Japan Bond Market Sets Record for No Trades; Trading of benchmark 10-year bond dries up for four straight sessions as the central bank keeps tight control of yields, longest streak since 1999, BOJH crossed threshold of 50% ownership of the entire jpy bond market on June 27, 2022

As [Bloomberg's Simon White](#) said last week, "**we are in uncharted territory as no other major central bank has crossed this threshold before.**"

BoJ Will be First to Cross the 50% Ownership Mark

■ Percent of Outstanding JGBs, EGBs, Gilts, USTs respectively held by Central Bank



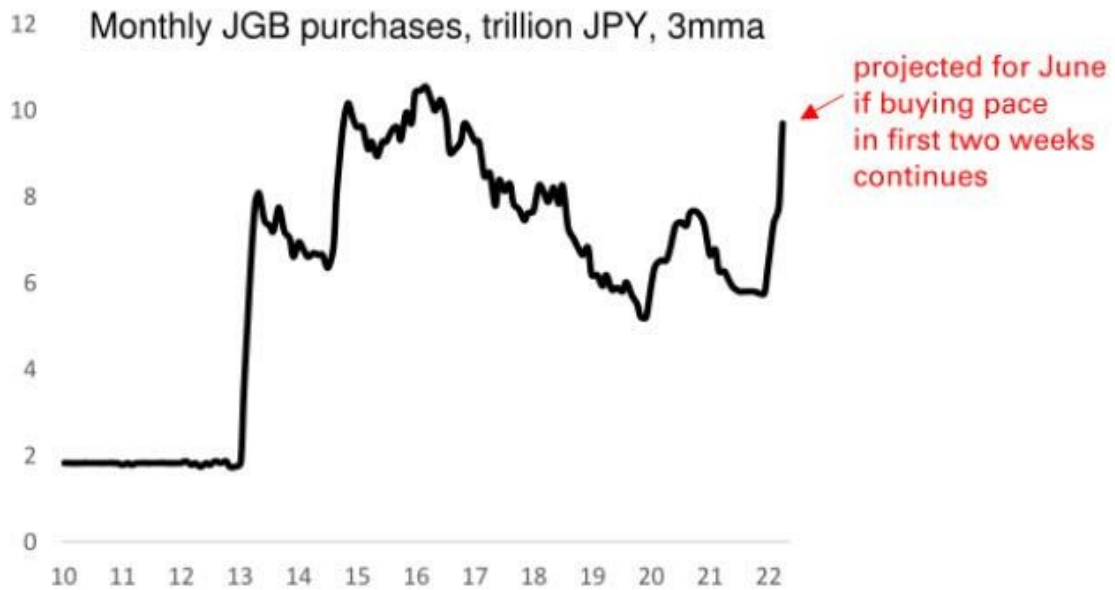
Source: Bloomberg

The central bank's JGB holdings were in the 10% range when Gov. Haruhiko Kuroda started the massive monetary easing program in 2013. Its holdings have swelled as the policy meant to bring Japan out of deflation has dragged on.

According to estimates by the Japan Center for Economic Research, the BOJ will need to increase its JGB holdings by 120 trillion yen from the current level of over 500 trillion yen to keep long-term interest rates at or below 0.25%. The central bank's JGB holdings could top 60% of the total in such a scenario.

The BOJ has concentrated on specific JGBs, holding 87.6% of newly issued 10-year JGBs, a benchmark for long-term interest rates.

The Bank of Japan is printing the Fed-equivalent of \$300bn a month



Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg Finance LP

What takes its place and when is the 1 quadrillion yen problem according to Bloomberg's Garfield Reynolds, who goes on to note that Tokyo is going to go on spreading rates and currency market turmoil until a solution of some sort is found.

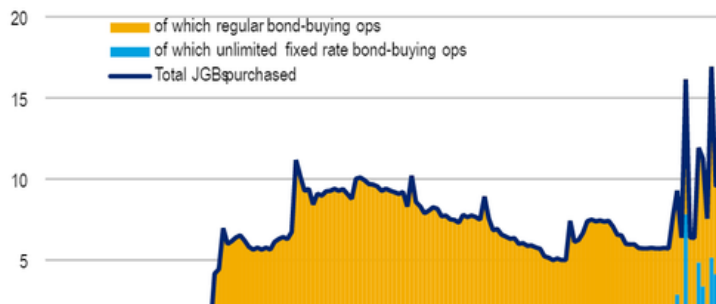
Meanwhile, the absolutely horrific and frantic pace of recent JGB purchases — some 12t yen in a mere four days — exceeds any single month of buying to date.



The central bank's share of the market likely jumped a full percentage point in January to 53%, and the month is only half over. hilariously, according to Garfield's calculations, **if the BOJ keeps going like this, then it has some 33 weeks or so left until there are no JGBs left in private hands.**

Exhibit 2: Monthly BoJ bond purchases (JPY trn), Jan '23 figure as of 13 Jan

The BoJ has had to purchase a record amount of bonds since Dec to defend YCC



Church, history, holy roman empire: roman cathaloic church vs queen of england; In government, Elizabeth was more moderate than her father and half-siblings had been.[3] One of her mottoes was "video et taceo" ("I see and keep silent").[4] In religion, she was relatively tolerant and avoided systematic persecution. After the pope declared her illegitimate in 1570 and released her subjects from obedience to her, several conspiracies threatened her life, all of which were defeated with the help of her ministers' secret service, run by Francis Walsingham. Elizabeth was cautious in foreign affairs, manoeuvring between the major powers of France and Spain. She half-heartedly supported a number of ineffective, poorly resourced military campaigns in the Netherlands, France, and Ireland. By the mid-1580s, England could no longer avoid war with Spain.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_I

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regnans_in_Excelsis

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Gregory_XIII

church, history, holy roman empire: **The Papal States, were a series of territories in the Italian Peninsula under the direct sovereign rule of the pope from 756 until 1870; For over a thousand years popes ruled as sovereign over an amalgam of territories on the Italian peninsula known as the Papal States, from the capital, Rome.[4] Avignon also came under the jurisdiction of the Papal States in 1348.[5]**

For over a thousand years popes ruled as [sovereign](#) over an amalgam of territories on the [Italian peninsula](#) known as the [Papal States](#), from the capital, [Rome](#).^[4] [Avignon](#) also came under the jurisdiction of the Papal States in 1348.^[5]

The state had its origins in the rise of [Christianity](#) throughout Italy, and with it the rising influence of the Christian Church. By the mid-8th century, with the decline of the [Byzantine Empire](#) in Italy, the Papacy became effectively sovereign. Several Christian rulers, including the Frankish kings [Charlemagne](#) and [Pepin the Short](#), further donated lands to be governed by the Church.^[5] During [the Renaissance](#), the papal territory expanded greatly and the pope became one of Italy's most important secular rulers as well as the head of the Church. At their zenith, the Papal States covered most of the modern Italian regions of [Lazio](#) (which includes [Rome](#)), [Marche](#), [Umbria](#) and [Romagna](#), and portions of [Emilia](#). These holdings were considered to be a manifestation of the [temporal power of the pope](#), as opposed to his ecclesiastical primacy.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Papal_States

The **temporal power of the Holy See** designates the [political](#) and [secular](#) influence of the [Holy See](#), the leading of a state by the [pope](#) of the [Catholic Church](#), as distinguished from its spiritual and [pastoral](#) activity.

In 751 the [Exarchate of Ravenna](#) fell to Lombard King [Aistulf](#). Five years later, [Pepin the Short](#) of the Franks defeated the Lombards and granted the lands of the Duchy of Rome as well as territory seized by the Lombards to the Papacy in what is referred to as the [Donation of Pepin](#), marking the true beginning of the Papal States. The area conferred upon the pope included the territory belonging to Ravenna, even cities such as [Forlì](#) with their hinterlands, the Lombard conquests in the [Romagna](#) and in the [Duchy of Spoleto](#) and [Benevento](#), and the [Pentapolis](#) (the "five cities" of [Rimini](#), [Pesaro](#), [Fano](#), [Senigallia](#) and [Ancona](#)). [Narni](#) and [Ceccano](#) were former papal

territories.^[3] effective However, the medieval Popes were unable to exercise effective sovereignty over these extensive and mountainous territories, given the recalcitrance of their vassals.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temporal_power_of_the_Holy_See

church, history, roman empire: In 751 the Exarchate of Ravenna fell to Lombard King Aistulf. Five years later, Pepin the Short of the Franks defeated the Lombards and granted the lands of the Duchy of Rome as well as territory ceased by the Lombards to the Papacy in what is referred to as the Donation of Pepin, marking the true beginning of the Papal States.

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temporal_power_of_the_Holy_See

church, history, holy roman empire: The 13 May 1871 Italian Law of Guarantees, passed eight months after the capture of Rome, was an attempt to solve the problem by making the pope a subject of the Kingdom of Italy, not an independent sovereign, while guaranteeing him certain honours similar to those given to the king and the right to send and receive ambassadors.

The **Law of Guarantees** ([Italian](#): *Legge delle guarentigie*), sometimes also called the **Law of Papal Guarantees**,^[4] was the name given to the law passed by the senate and chamber of the Italian parliament, 13 May, 1871, concerning the prerogatives of the [Holy See](#), and the relations between State and Church in the [Kingdom of Italy](#).

It *guaranteed* sovereign prerogatives to the [Roman Pontiff](#), who had been deprived of the territory of the [papal states](#). The popes refused to accept the law, as it was enacted by a foreign government and could therefore be revoked at will, leaving the popes without a full claim to sovereign status. In response, the popes declared themselves [prisoners of the Vatican](#). The ensuing [Roman Question](#) was not resolved until the [Lateran Pacts](#) of 1929.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_Guarantees

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prisoner_in_the_Vatican

history, church, war, markets: The Revolutions of 1848: the most widespread revolutionary wave in European history to date; essentially democratic and liberal in nature, with the aim of removing the old monarchical structures and creating independent nation-states, as envisioned by romantic nationalism; initial revolution began in France in February; lasting reforms included the abolition of serfdom in Austria and Hungary, the end of absolute monarchy in Denmark, and the introduction of representative democracy in the Netherlands; Although the United Kingdom didn't see any notable actions at home, in British Ceylon there was a parallel but unsuccessful uprising against British rule known as the Matale Rebellion. The wave of uprisings ended in October 1849.

The effect of the crisis on [Ireland](#) is incomparable to all other places, causing one million deaths,^[4] up to two million [refugees](#), and spurring a century-long [population decline](#). Excluding Ireland, the death toll from the crisis is estimated to be in the region of 100,000 people.

Emigration to escape the famine centred mainly on Ireland and the [Scottish Highlands](#). Elsewhere in the [United Kingdom](#) and on [the continent](#), conditions were not so harsh as to completely eradicate the basics of survival so as to require mass migration of the sort experienced in Ireland and Scotland. Over 16,500 emigrated from the Scottish Highlands (out of a population affected by famine of no more than 200,000), many

assisted by landlords and the [Highland and Island Emigration Society](#), mainly to [North America](#) and [Australia](#), this forming part of the second phase of the [Highland Clearances](#).^{[5]:481[6]:307} The global consequence of this was the creation of a substantial [Irish diaspora](#).

After the blight, strains [originating in the Chiloé Archipelago](#) replaced earlier potatoes of [Peruvian](#) origin in Europe.^[2]

	Potatoes				Rye	Wheat	Oats
	arable land	consumption	1845 yield	1846 yield			
	(%)	(kg/capita daily)	(% change on normal)				
Belgium	14%	0.5/0.6 kg	−87%	−43%	−50%	−10%	n/a
Denmark	3%	0.2/0.3 kg	−50%	−50%	−20%	−20%	n/a
Sweden	5%	0.5/0.6 kg	−20–25%	−20–25%	−10%	−10%	n/a
France	App. 6%	0.5 kg	−20%	−19%	−20%	−25%	n/a
Württemberg	3–8%	n/a	−55%	−51%	−15%	−24%	n/a
Prussia	11%	1.0/1.1 kg	n/a	−47%	−43%	−43%	n/a
Netherlands	11%	0.7 kg	−71%	−56%	−47%	−6%	n/a
Spain	2%	low	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Highlands of Scotland	n/a	high	n/a	−80%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ireland	32%	2.1 kg	−30%	−88%	n/a	n/a	−33%
Source: Cormac Ó Gráda et al., 2006 ^[3]							

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolutions_of_1848

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Potato_Failure

church, history, war: Between 1798 and 1814, the revolutionary French government invaded Italy several times and annexed the Papal States (though the papacy was restored between 1800 and 1809). Napoleon Bonaparte abolished the pope's temporal power in 1809, incorporating Rome and Latium into his First French Empire. Pope Pius VII himself was even taken prisoner by Napoleon. However, the pope's temporal power was restored by the Great powers at the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars in the 1815 Congress of Vienna.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temporal_power_of_the_Holy_See

church, history, war: The secular revolutionary movements of the 1800s posed a serious threat to the pope's temporal power. Avignon was seized by revolutionaries during the French Revolution in 1791, ending 450 years of papal sovereignty there.

The secular revolutionary movements of the 1800s posed a serious threat to the pope's temporal power. Avignon was seized by revolutionaries during the [French Revolution](#) in 1791, ending 450 years of papal sovereignty there.

War, Germany, holy roman empire: Italy declared war on Austria in alliance with Prussia in 1866 and received the region of Veneto following their victory. Italian troops entered Rome in 1870, ending more than one thousand years of Papal temporal power. Italy entered into a Triple Alliance with the German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1882, following

strong disagreements with France about their respective colonial expansions.

Italy [declared war](#) on [Austria](#) in alliance with [Prussia](#) in 1866 and received the region of [Veneto](#) following their victory. Italian troops [entered Rome](#) in 1870, ending [more than one thousand years of Papal temporal power](#). Italy entered into a [Triple Alliance](#) with the [German Empire](#) and the [Austro-Hungarian Empire](#) in 1882, following strong disagreements with [France](#) about their respective colonial expansions. Although relations with [Berlin](#) became very friendly, the alliance with [Vienna](#) remained purely formal, due in part to Italy's desire to acquire [Trentino](#) and [Trieste](#) from Austria-Hungary. As a result, Italy accepted the [British](#) invitation to join the [Allied Powers](#) during [World War I](#), as the western powers promised territorial compensation (at the expense of [Austria-Hungary](#)) for participation that was more generous than Vienna's offer in exchange for Italian neutrality. Victory in the war gave Italy a permanent seat in the Council of the [League of Nations](#).

Church, history, rome: **(unconfirmed) Jesus' ministry began not too long after fall A.D. 29, and lasted until 43 days after April 3, A.D. 33: about 3 years.**

Rome, church, history: The Gregorian calendar is the calendar used in most parts of the world, was introduced in October 1582 by Pope

There were two reasons to establish the Gregorian calendar. First, the Julian calendar assumed incorrectly that the average solar year is exactly 365.25 days long, an overestimate of a little under one day per century, and thus has a leap year every four years without exception. The Gregorian reform shortened the average (calendar) year by 0.0075 days to stop the drift of the calendar with respect to the [equinoxes](#).^[3] Second, in the years since the [First Council of Nicaea](#) in AD 325,^[4] the excess leap days introduced by the Julian algorithm had caused the calendar to drift such that the [\(Northern\) spring equinox](#) was occurring well before its nominal 21 March date. This date was important to the Christian churches because it is fundamental to the [calculation of the date of Easter](#). To reinstate the association, the reform advanced the date by 10 days:^[4] Thursday 4 October 1582 was followed by Friday 15 October 1582.^[3] In addition, the reform also altered the lunar cycle used by the Church to calculate the date for Easter, because astronomical new moons were occurring four days before the calculated dates. It is notable that whilst the reform introduced minor changes, the calendar continued to be fundamentally based on the same [geocentric theory](#) as its predecessor.^[4]

The reform was adopted initially by the [Catholic](#) countries of Europe and their overseas possessions. Over the next three centuries, the [Protestant](#) and [Eastern Orthodox](#) countries also moved to what they called the *Improved calendar*, with Greece being the last European country to adopt the calendar (for civil use only) in 1923.^[5] To unambiguously specify a date during the transition period (in contemporary documents or in history texts), [both notations were given](#), tagged as '[Old Style](#)' or '[New Style](#)' as

appropriate. During the 20th century, most non-[Western](#) countries also adopted the calendar, at least for [civil purposes](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gregorian_calendar

As God commanded Moses, "The first month of the year to you" (Exodus 12:2) was to be Nisan, which corresponded to March/April (just as the vernal equinox on March 25 was the beginning of the new year in the early Roman calendar). A lamb was to be kept "until the fourteenth day of the same month" (Exodus 12:6, Leviticus 23:5, Numbers 28:16) when, that evening, it was to be sacrificed and eaten with bread and bitter herbs (Exodus 12:8), on what then was the fifteenth day of the month.

penelopedotuchicagodotedu/~grout/encyclopaedia_romana/calendar/jesus.html

church, history, rome: The Julian calendar has two types of years: a normal year of 365 days and a leap year of 366 days. They follow a simple cycle of three normal years and one leap year, giving an average year that is 365.25 days long. That is more than the actual solar year value of 365.24219 days (the current value, which varies), which means the Julian calendar gains a day every 128 years.

Church, history, rome: The Julian calendar, proposed by Roman consul Julius Caesar in 46 BC, was a reform of the Roman calendar. It took effect on 1 January 45 BC, calendar became the predominant calendar in the Roman Empire and subsequently most of the Western world for

more than 1,600 years until 1582, when Pope Gregory XIII promulgated a minor modification to reduce the average length of the year from 365.25 days to 365.2425 days and thus corrected the Julian calendar's drift against the solar year. Worldwide adoption of this revised calendar, which became known as the Gregorian calendar, took place over the subsequent centuries, first in Catholic countries and subsequently in Protestant countries of the Western Christian world.

Church, history, rome: During the time of jesus, the days changed at sunset rather than at nighttime, 6 hours after sunset. So 3 o clock was actually only 3 hours from the end of the day during the time of jesus

Daylight hours, however, still were measured from sunrise (6 a.m.). The third hour was 9 a.m.; the sixth hour, 12 noon; and the ninth hour, 3 p.m. An event that occurred just before sunset (the twelfth hour, 6 p.m.) was counted as taking place on that day and, after sunset, the next. In the Jerusalem Talmud, for example, "day and night each are a term, and part of a term is like the whole" (*Shabbat*, IX.3). It is important to remember, too, that days were counted inclusively and that both the first and last day were included in calculating the passage of time.

Tech: 2018: These \$10,000 Concrete Homes Are 3D-Printed in Less Than 24 Hours, Once plumbing, electrical and other additional

construction is added, the final housing cost is around \$140,000 to \$160,000 on average today.

What makes housing so expensive? Labor costs, for one.

According to a [2014 Census Bureau](#) survey, the average single-family home takes about six months to construct, and that's a lot of man-hours. A new type of home from Austin, Texas-based startup [ICON](#) and the housing nonprofit [New Story](#) is hoping to change that. Their homes can be built from the ground up in 12 to 24 hours, and they cost builders just \$10,000 to construct, [The Verge](#) reports.

The project, which was revealed at this year's SXSW festival in Austin, isn't the first to apply 3D printing to home construction. [Moscow](#), [Beijing](#), and [Dubai](#) are all home to structures assembled using the technology. What makes ICON and New Story's buildings remarkable is what they intend to do with them: Within the next 18 months, they plan to set up a community of 100 3D-printed homes for residents of El Salvador. If that venture is successful, the team wants to bring the printer to other places in need of affordable housing, including parts of the U.S.

thezebradotcom/resources/home/3d-printed-homes/

tech: . Called bioprinting, it is considered by many to be the future of medicine. From prostheses to surgical guides to bioprinted organs, it allows caregivers to provide the right care for each patient.

aerospace industry, where many parts, such as turbines, are now 3D printed

<https://www.3dnatives.com/en/what-is-additive-manufacturing/#>

first 3-d printer created in 1988 by 3-d systems, followed by numerous discoveries, such as the first successful bioprinting project in 2011 with the printing of a kidney, the first 3D printer sent into space, and the first inhabited 3D printed house.

<https://www.3dnatives.com/en/3d-technologies/>

Invented in 1986 by Charles Hull with the stereolithography (SLA) process, additive manufacturing is now a technology used in many sectors

Invented in 1986 by Charles Hull with the [stereolithography \(SLA\)](#) process, additive manufacturing is now a technology used in many sectors

additive manufacturing is a technological revolution, hailed as part of the fourth industrial revolution

tech: The first fully 3D-printed home in the U.S. was unveiled at Austin's South by Southwest conference in 2018

tech: ICON wants to eventually bring the \$10,000 price tag down to \$4000. The 3D-printed houses owe their affordability to low labor costs and cheap materials.

Markets, tech, housing: company that recent built canada first and second 3d printed houses say it is still slightly more expensive than building a regular house

ottawadotcvtvnewsdotca/first-two-story-3d-printed-house-being-built-on-wolfe-island-1.6007960

markets, tech, housing: The 3D printing industry is still small today and uses only a very small number of workers. But its impact on blue-collar jobs will be much more significant than any industrial revolution.

omnifabdotph/blog/3d-printed-houses-what-are-their-pros-and-cons/

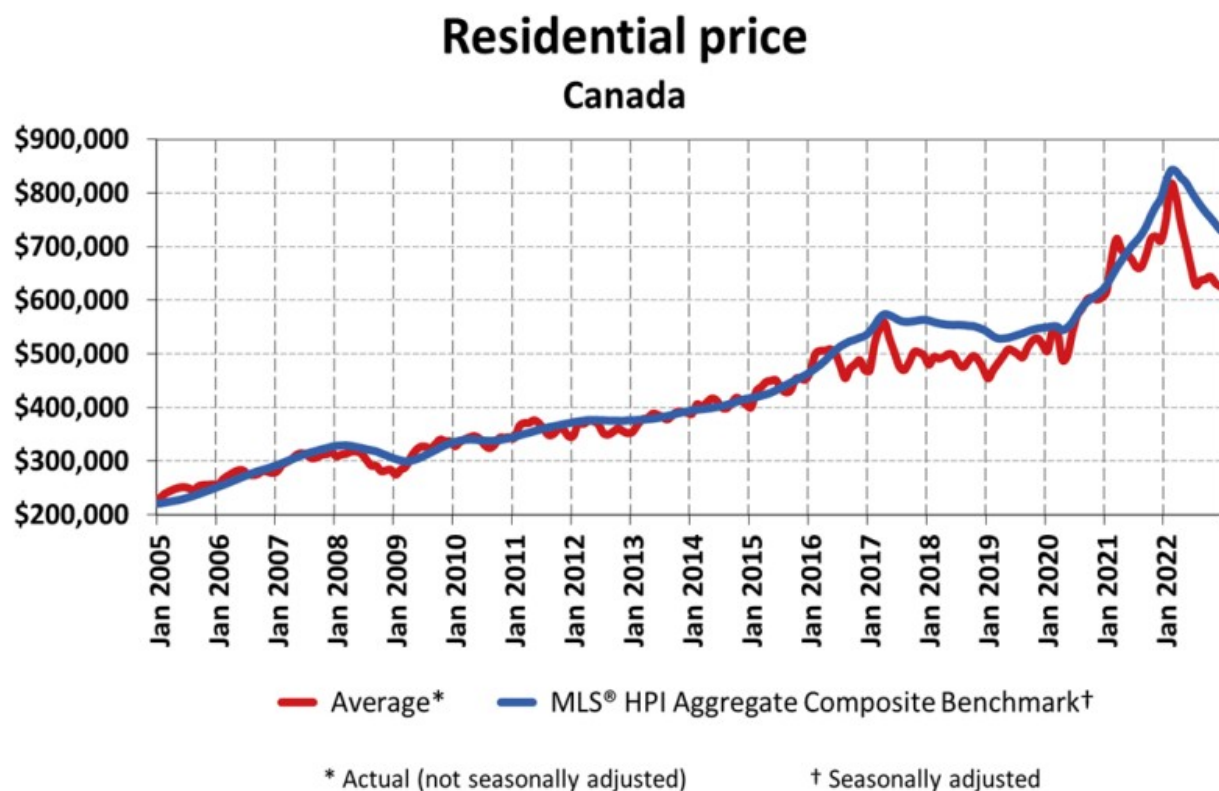
tech, war: Boston Dynamics is Building a Super Robot Army

tech, markets, housing: The Top 10 PREFAB HOMES of 2023!!

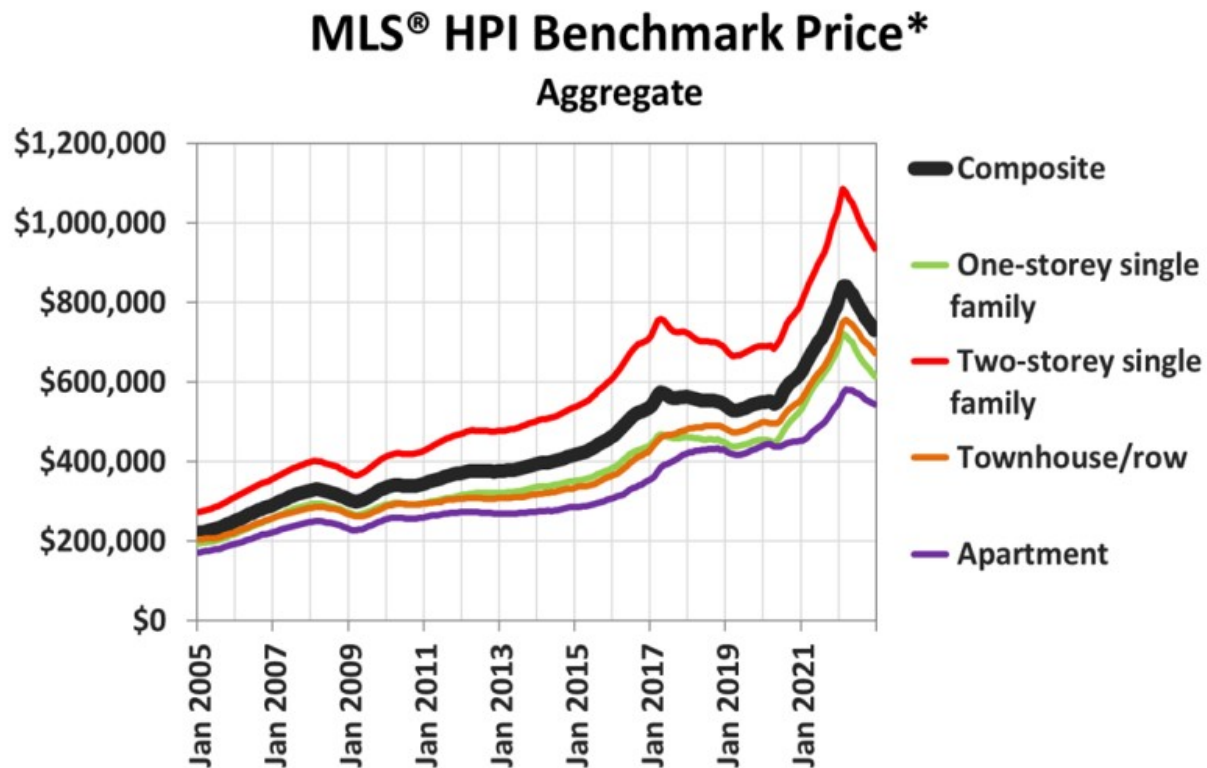
Tech, markets, housing: 3D-Printed in 24h, no waste.

markets, housing: house prices in a nutshell in Canada

The actual (not seasonally adjusted) national average home price was \$626,318 in December 2022, down 12% from the same month last year. The national average price is heavily influenced by sales in Greater Vancouver and the Greater Toronto Area, two of Canada's most active and expensive housing markets. Excluding these two markets from the calculation cuts almost \$118,000 from the national average price.



Source: The Canadian Real Estate Association



Source: The Canadian Real Estate Association

* Seasonally adjusted

**Censorship, government: is it just this simple...
(enthic mixing went too far; should obviously
still be allowed, but limited to maintain
harmony in the community)**

what this man says is probably true. I've kind of seen what he's talking about and get what he is saying..

investmentwatchblogdotcom/modern-americas-diversity-problem-is-concentrated-almost-entirely-in-the-major-cities/

**war: (me talking) jan17 russia threatens europe.
any tanks sent now involves you in the war; we
have lsot many people, now and throughout
history. For those the\at haven't, yet, russia says
it will not hesitate to remind those how it feels
to be attacked**

investmentwatchblogdotcom/russia-this-is-serious/

today, ukraine, antiwar: jan17

Ukraine

[UN Confirms More Than 7,000 Civilian Deaths in Ukraine](#)

[Ukraine Missile Toll Rises to 40 as Russia Denies Attack](#)

[Britain Urges Germany to Permit Supply of Tanks to Ukraine](#)

[Latvia Urges Western Allies to Step Up Military Aid for Ukraine](#)
[Ukraine's Zelensky Calls on OSCE to Do More About Ukrainians Moved to Russia](#)

[British Foreign Minister Seeks to Bolster Ukraine Support on North American Trip](#)

[Poland Expects German Accord for Leopard Tank Deliveries to Ukraine](#)

[Cambodian Experts Begin Training Ukrainian Deminers](#)

[UN Watchdog Optimistic About Ukraine Nuclear Plant Protection](#)

Russia

[Germany Calls for Special Tribunal Against Russia Over Ukraine War](#)

[Putin Slams Growing Western Arms Deliveries to Ukraine](#)

[British Challenger-2 Tanks Sent to Ukraine Will Burn on the Battlefield, Moscow Warns](#)

[Putin and Erdogan Discuss Ukraine Prisoners, Gas and Grain](#)

[India's Oil Imports From Russia Jump 33 Times to Record High](#)

War: jan17 Somali Forces Capture Strategic Coastal Town From Al-Shabaab 11 years after it's capture in 2012

Markets, energy, war: fuel shortages in syria t he worst since the beginning of the civil war, analysts told the wall street journal, Iran sets new \$70 limit on shipments to syria, doubling t he previous set price; iran account for more than half of syrias oil consumption

Iran is doubling the price of its oil going to Syria to a market rate of over \$70 per barrel and now refuses to ship oil to Damascus on credit, demanding payment in advance, sources with knowledge of the matter told [The Wall Street Journal](#) on Sunday.

War: jan17 UN Confirms More Than 7,000 Civilian Deaths in Ukraine

War, Israel, media: "I'm a fascist homophobe, but... I won't stone gays". (I actually kind of understand what he's actually trying to say here, and honestly, I kind of agree. He think homosexuality is sick, but he won't hurt them or block them from working up the ladder like anybody else in his country. At least they don't kill them, like they do in Afghanistan and other muslim countries)

In the recording, Smotrich is reportedly heard saying "I'm a fascist homophobe, but... I won't stone gays".

Prime Minister Benjamin [Netanyahu's coalition deal](#), which saw far-right politicians appointed as ministers, has led to concerns of a possible crackdown on LGBTQ and women's rights in Israel, along with a much greater fear of the [violent suppression of Palestinians](#).

War, Africa:

isis in congo now? wha?: " ISIS Claims Church Bombing in East DR Congo; 14 Dead

"Let the Congolese forces know that their continued attacks on the Mujahideen will only bring them more failure and losses," the group said in its statement.

like this ere. All you need is the headline(because it tells you what actually happened), and the official statement from the group's head, like sort of a managements discussion, or boards opinion.

War, markets, energy: Spanish Utility Says Europe's Energy Crisis Isn't Over Yet

Journal, war: jan17

War, journal: sounds like a fabricated story, involves norwegian border with russia-- something that's been in the fear wire lately-- and unnamed foreigner who's supposedly a 'high-ranking' wagner group member. This would signal to russians that they are free to coem to norway if t hey want to escape putin. In war, everything is lies unles it's an actual recorded event.

High-ranking Wagner Group member seeks asylum in Norway

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — A Russian man who reportedly is a former high-ranking member of the Russian private military contractor Wagner Group, has sought asylum in Norway, authorities said Monday.

The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, also known by its Norwegian acronym UDI, confirmed to The Associated Press that Andrey Medvedev has sought shelter in Norway.

“For reasons of security and privacy, the UDI cannot comment further on this matter,” UDI said in an email to the AP.

His Norwegian lawyer, Brynjulf Risnes, confirmed that Medvedev was in Norway and had sought asylum.

The case was handed to the Norwegian immigration police and the man was transferred to Oslo, where he was placed in a center for violators of migration laws. Police in Norway have declined to comment on the case.

Last week, police in Arctic Norway said a person had illegally entered from Russia by crossing the two countries’ border, which is 198 kilometers (123 miles) long.

ADVERTISEMENT

The man, who was only identified by authorities as a foreigner, was detained by border guards and the arrest was undramatic, police said. The man is said to have visited a private house in the border area and asked for help. Police said that they had been notified late Thursday by Russian border guards who discovered traces in the snow that could indicate that someone had crossed the border illegally.

NORWAY



[Norway archaeologists find 'world's oldest runestone'](#)



[Kristoffersen wins World Cup slalom, completes Norway sweep](#)



[Braathen beats boyhood buddy McGrath to win World Cup slalom](#)



[Crane crashes onto mall in Norway amid high winds; 1 dead](#)

It is believed that person was identical with Medvedev, who according to the Norwegian news agency NTB on Monday has been on the run since he defected from the Wagner Group on July 6. He reportedly has told a Russian human rights group that he is ready to tell everything he knows about the Wagner Group, its activities and its owner Yevgeny Prigozhin, a millionaire with ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The Wagner Group includes a large number of convicts recruited in Russian prisons who have spearheaded attacks in Ukraine. The group has become increasingly [influential in Africa](#), where it has been pushing Russian disinformation, building alliances with regimes and gaining access to oil, gas, gold, diamonds and valuable minerals.

Iran, war, sanctions: Hamad bin Jassim warned Saturday that a collapse of international efforts to renew Iran's 2015 nuclear deal could lead to war in the Gulf region.

Hamad bin Jassim warned Saturday that a collapse of [international efforts to renew Iran's 2015 nuclear deal](#) could lead to war in the [Gulf region](#).

For more than a decade, [Israel has threatened to attack its regional enemy's nuclear facilities](#) if it deems world powers' diplomacy with Tehran a dead end.

Bitter foes, [a "shadow war" between Israel and Iran](#) has seen a spate of attacks on ships in the Gulf from both sides that they have blamed on each other.

"If parties do not reach a new nuclear deal with Iran, and the United States provides Israel with the weapons it needs, there will be, God forbid, military escalation that may shake security and stability in our region and will have dire economic, political and social consequences," continued bin Jassim on Twitter.

[Iran, war, sanctions: jan17](#) **Former US president Donald Trump withdrew from the agreement in 2018 and reimposed crippling economic sanctions on Iran. In return, Iran begun producing uranium enriched to 60 percent.**

[War, energy, markets:](#) **Unlike Riyadh, countries like Qatar, Kuwait and Oman have long shared relatively better ties with Tehran.**

[War, Israel: jan17](#) **Israel has conducted hundreds of strikes within Syria in its bid to degrade regime-allied militias and to prevent their development and deployment capacity to attack Israel across the occupied Golan Heights with drones and ballistic missiles.**

War: jan17 US Begins Expanded Training of Ukrainian Forces in Germany

The genocidal remarks were made by blogger Melania Podolyak in response to a missile hitting an apartment block in the Ukrainian city of Dnipro.

The building was struck after a Russian missile was shot down by a Ukrainian anti-air weapon, according to Aleksey Arestovich, an adviser to President Vladimir Zelensky.

"It's absolutely fair for me to wish for all Russians and Russia to be wiped off the face of the Earth," Podolyak tweeted.

"It's not hate speech, it's not horrible of me, it's just FAIR," she added.



Melaniya Podolyak ✓
@MelaniePodolyak · [Follow](#)



It's absolutely fair for me to wish for all Russians and Russia to be wiped off the face of the Earth. It's not hate speech, it's not horrible of me, it's just FAIR.

14.01.2023, Dnipro, a residential building after Russian missile attack.



10:11 AM · Jan 14, 2023



[Read the full conversation on Twitter](#)

to ac
rally.

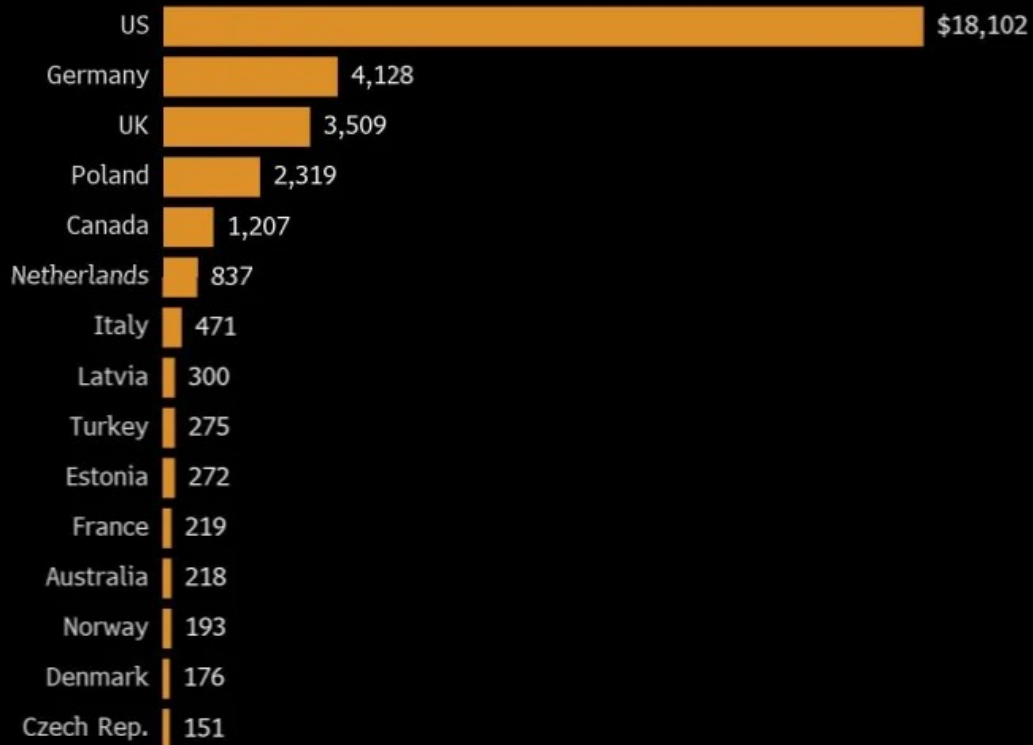
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Countries Donating Weapons to Ukraine

■ January-November weapons deliveries in millions of dollars

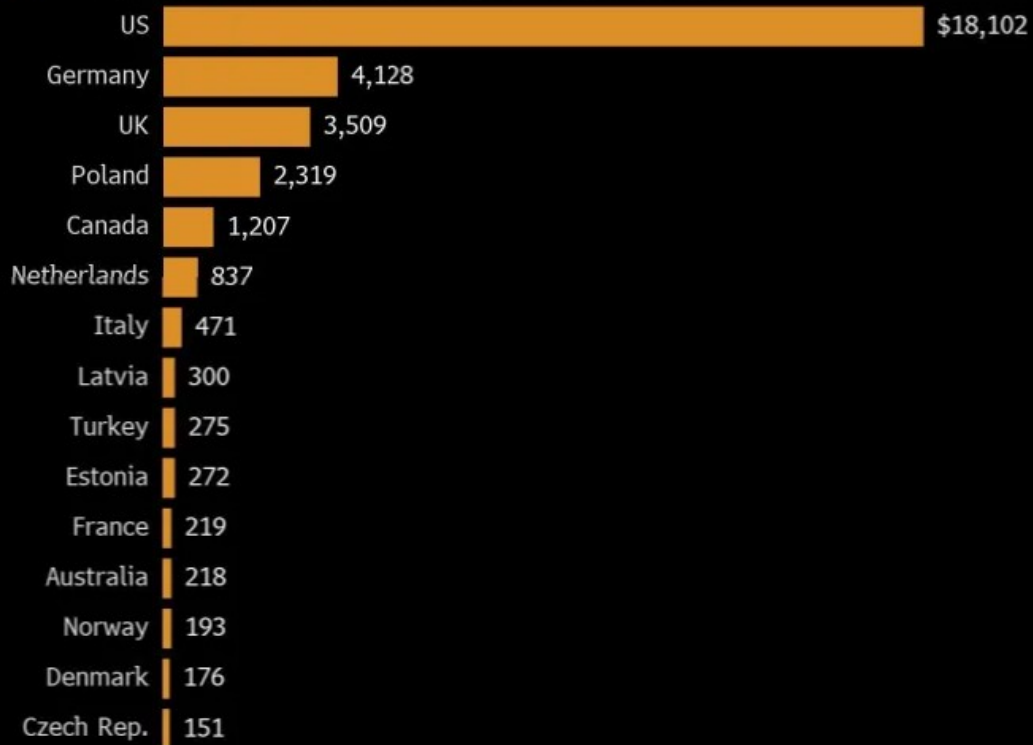


Source: Group for Research and Information on Peace and Security

Bloomberg Government

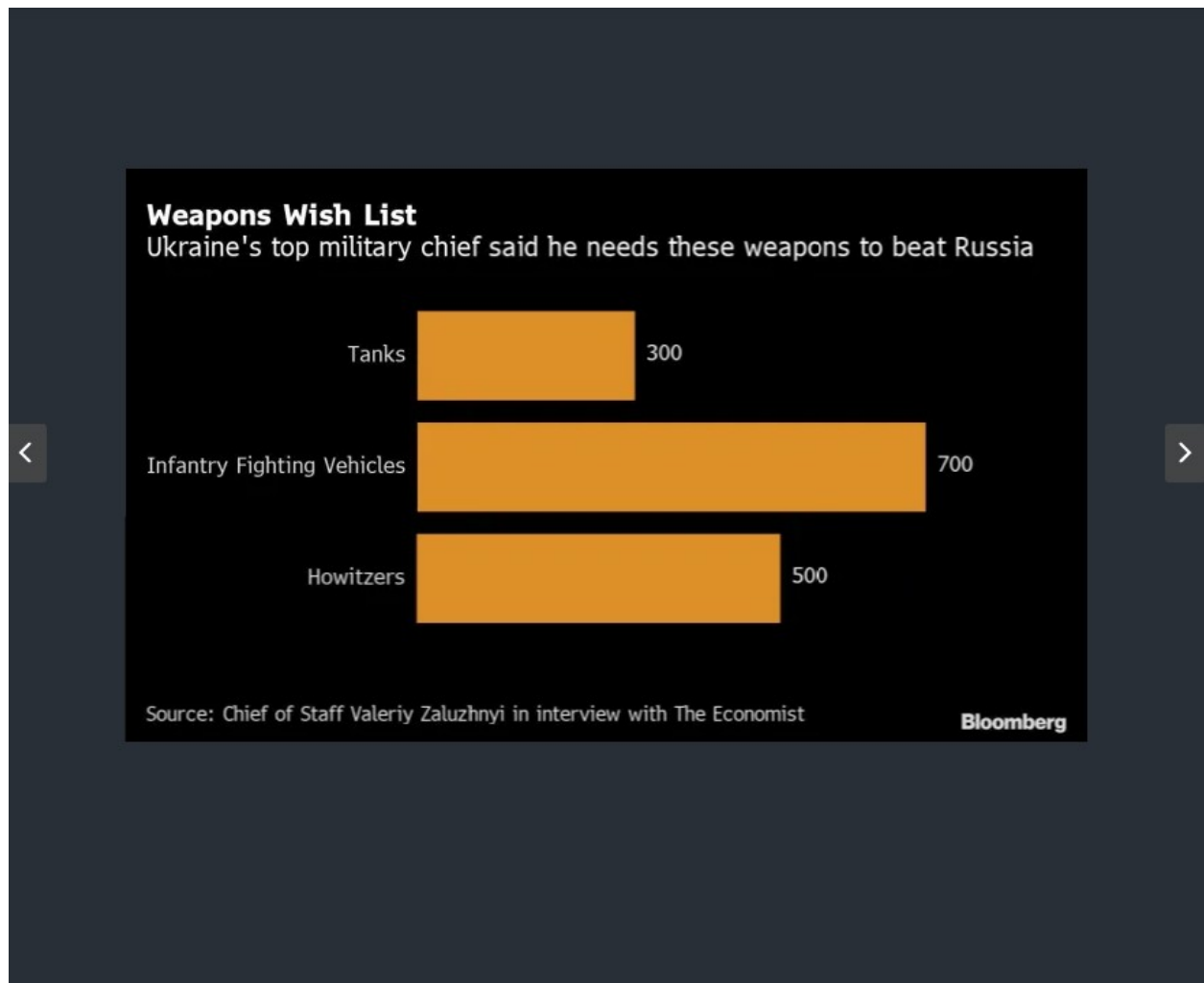
Countries Donating Weapons to Ukraine

■ January-November weapons deliveries in millions of dollars



Source: Group for Research and Information on Peace and Security

Bloomberg Government



[War: jan17](#) **Croatia's President: US, NATO Are Waging a Proxy War Against Russia jan17**

[War: jan17](#) **On friday the 13th, "Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov told BBC on Friday that Ukraine is a "de facto" NATO member"**

[War: jan17](#) **sick: Ukrainian Activist Lauded By Western Media Says She Wants "All Russians" To Be "Wiped Off The Face Of The Earth"**

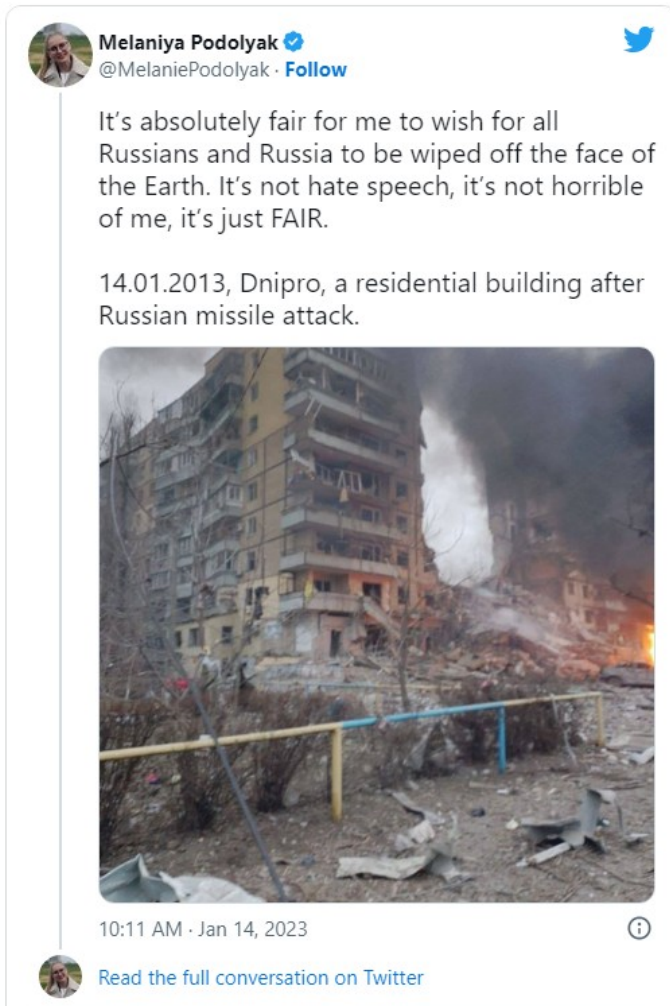
A Ukrainian activist who has been lauded by legacy media outlets called for “all Russians” to be “wiped off the face of the Earth.”

The genocidal remarks were made by blogger Melaniya Podoliak in response to a missile hitting an apartment block in the Ukrainian city of Dnepr.

The building was struck after a Russian missile was shot down by a Ukrainian anti-air weapon, according to Aleksey Arestovich, an adviser to President Vladimir Zelensky.

“It’s absolutely fair for me to wish for all Russians and Russia to be wiped off the face of the Earth,” Podoliak tweeted.

“It’s not hate speech, it’s not horrible of me, it’s just FAIR,” she added.



Markets, war: French And German Power Prices Soar As Cold Sweeps Europe jan17

Health, vaccine: "Our own analysis indicates that an estimated 300-500 patients are dying

**per week across the UK associated with long waiting times in emergency departments",
Adrian Boyle, president of the Royal College of
Emergency Medicine**

**War, energy, markets: US NatGas Prices Rise As
Models Suggest 'Polar Vortex To Unload On US'**

**Source, ads, markets: Email marketing can be
extremely lucrative — it generates an
investment return of \$36 for every \$1 spent**

<http://constantcontact.com/blog/email-marketing-statistics/>

urbanemudotcom/how-to-develop-and-launch-a-successful-social-behavior-change-campaign/



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4. Knell claims to have extensive experience in Public Health Comm. & Social Marketing. And aims to "largely focus on managing the development & execution of strategically targeted & tailored behavior change campaigns with an eye toward health equity."



2:23 PM · Jan 16, 2023



46



Reply



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[Read 3 replies](#)

"To translate the above into layman's terms she is a narrative enforcer. She's funded by Big Pharma and aided by Big Brother to be the ministry of truth. She aims to create social norms by means of censorship and propaganda. **She wants to tell you & I—how/what to say and think.**"

Meanwhile, as this bullying progressed this was happening...



zerohedge
@zerohedge · [Follow](#)



Ads, censorship, source: behavior change campaigns can sometimes make things worse, like in everyday life. if you don't do it right, people will just do the opposite or feel threatened, attacked, challenged

Sometimes, behavior change campaigns can end up making a social issue worse. Evidence suggests that anti-smoking commercials, for example, can make young people [more likely to smoke](#).

Behavior change communication (BCC) can be extremely difficult because there's such a fine line between encouraging someone to do something and telling them what to do.

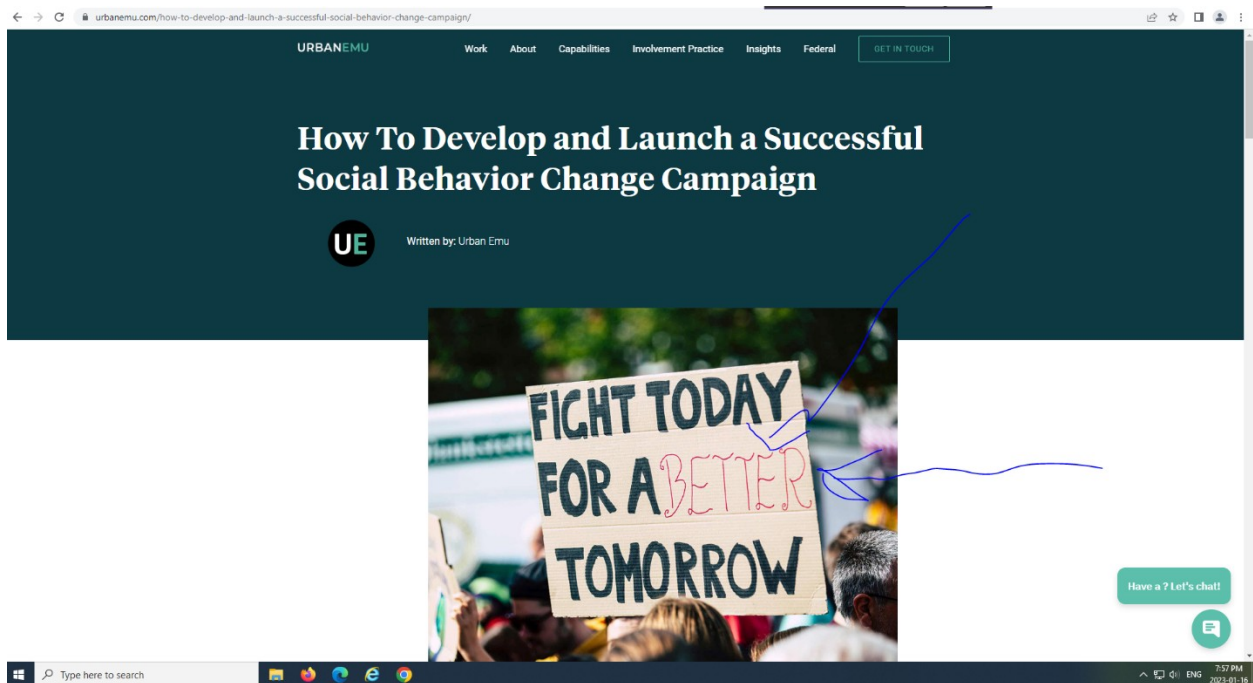
Behavior change campaigns typically target long-term issues that have existed in society for some time — crime, drug use, poor eating habits, etc

some points completely change the equation, like this one, at least for me: "Avoid being culturally insensitive or criticizing someone's beliefs about a particular social issue, even if you don't agree with that person's views. Social issues like COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, for example, need to be treated with care and compassion. If you want to change someone's behavior, you need to empathize and understand your audience's concerns."

Behavioral change campaigns typically focus on a specific group rather than the whole population

More than 1.8 million smokers quit after the CDC's two-month-long Tips From Former Smokers campaign in 2014.

They're calling them "behavior change campaigns", now...prolly good to know..



Can you change someone's behavior? If you develop a clever social behavior change campaign, you can.

If you wonder why some children sing "Happy Birthday" when washing their hands, that behavior could be the result of a savvy [social behavior change campaign](#) from the CDC. Health experts recommend washing your hands while [humming the song twice](#) — which takes around 20 seconds.

Social behavior change campaigns like the hand-washing example is about building awareness around a social issue to change someone's behavior or attitudes. There are loads of examples of these types of campaigns. The "[Clunk Click, Every Trip](#)" campaign from the '70s encouraged British motorists to buckle up, for example.

War, history, Russia:

[RUSSIA'S 'MONROE DOCTRINE' - The Washington Post](#)

War, sanctions, markets: **Bank of England essentially 'breaks the buck', by refusing to give zenezuela's gold back**



BritBob 1 hour ago

Perhaps the Argentinians will try to stop Falklands oil being sold in S. America?

Falklands Oil and Gas

Sea Lion is capable of producing more than 120,000 barrels of oil per day. (Business Live 29 Sept 2022)

(The sea floor is between 1000 and 1500 m deep — with the oil 2000-3500 m below the sea floor. There could be up to 5 billion barrels of oil or gas in the fields).

What about Argentina's Claim to the waters around the Falklands?

Falklands – Argentina's Geographical Affinity Claim (1 pg):-

https://www.academia.edu/66340704/Falklands_Argentinas_Geographical_Affinity_Claim

▲ 1 ▼ 2



itstippy 38 minutes ago

The Falklands' oil and gas deposits belong to the USA just like all other oil & gas deposits Worldwide. Argentinians, Brits, and Rockhopper Penguins can kiss off and keep their dirty paws off our dang oil.

▲ ▼



Cloudcrusher 18 seconds ago

Free market capitalism at its finest.

▲ ▼



pndr4495 12 minutes ago

I trust all Chevron shareholders were satisfied with the sale price. It's nobody's business but Chevron's.

▲ ▼



sinbad2 37 minutes ago

has expressed its willingness to sell Venezuela's crude oil in the United States as a way to claw back some of the \$10 billion owed by Venezuela.

So the US is stealing the oil, what kind of threats has caused Venezuela to allow this ?

▲ ▼



Big iron 49 minutes ago (Edited)

Hamaca crude is an extra-heavy, sour blend.

Andrew Dice Clay says his extra-heavy sour has to be chewed

▲ ▼ 1

LONDON (AP) — The British government sought Monday to prevent Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro from gaining access to nearly \$2 billion of gold held by the Bank of England as the U.K. Supreme Court started hearing a case that hinges on the question of who should be considered the Latin American nation's president.

Britain told the court that its recognition of opposition leader Juan Guaidó as president is clear and longstanding, and therefore he is the person authorized to decide how the gold held by Britain's central bank should be used. The government's statement came after a lower court said the U.K.'s recognition of Guaidó was "ambiguous."

"The U.K. government has the right to decide who to recognize as the legitimate head of a foreign state," the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office said in a statement. "The U.K. recognizes Juan Guaidó as president of Venezuela and consequentially he is the only individual recognized to have the authority to act on behalf of Venezuela as its head of state."

ADVERTISEMENT

Maduro has demanded access to the gold to help his cash-starved nation fight the coronavirus pandemic. But the Bank of England has refused to hand it over, citing the British government's recognition of Guaidó.

Guaidó has sought to preserve the gold stash at the Bank of England to keep it out of the hands of the Maduro government, which it contends is illegitimate and corrupt.

Guaidó, who was the leader of Venezuela's National Assembly, challenged Maduro's claim to the presidency, arguing that his 2018 election was rigged and invalid. Guaidó says he is the country's interim president under provisions of the constitution that allow the head of the legislature to take power until free elections can be held.

Countries including the U.S. and the U.K. have recognized Guaidó as the legitimate president of Venezuela, although China, Russia and many others haven't and Maduro holds effective power within Venezuela.

The battle over the gold is being fought out between two competing governing boards of the Central Bank of Venezuela, one appointed by Maduro and the other by Guaidó.

Guaidó, who is represented by the law firm Arnold & Porter, is arguing there is nothing ambiguous about the U.K. actions.

Maduro's lawyers argue that he's still president of Venezuela and that the U.K. has recognized this by continuing diplomatic relations with his government.

Leigh Crestohl, a lawyer representing the Maduro board, said the U.K. government's position threatens the attractiveness of the City of London and the Bank of England as a secure place for foreign assets.

"International observers to this case may be surprised by the possibility that a unilateral statement of political recognition by the U.K. government can dispossess a foreign sovereign of assets deposited in London without any recourse in the English court," Crestohl, a partner at the London-based law firm Zaiwalla & Co., said in a statement. "This is all the more so where that recognition ignores the reality on the ground."

law.com/international-edition/2022/07/20/uk-high-court-reserves-judgment-in-venezuelan-gold-case/

ALM | LAW.COM INTERNATIONAL

NEWS

UK High Court Reserves Judgment in Venezuelan Gold Case

Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro, who some label an illegitimate and corrupt dictator, for years has sought the release of nearly \$2 billion worth of bullion held by the Bank of England.

July 20, 2022 at 12:01 AM

3 minute read

Commercial Litigation


Amy Guthrie
Latin America Correspondent

Credit: Shutterstock

A U.K. High Court judge has reserved judgment on whether the Bank of England may hold for safekeeping nearly \$2 billion of Venezuelan gold, essentially kicking the can down the road in a long-running legal battle between Venezuelan leaders Nicolás Maduro and Juan Guaidó.

Sarosh Zaiwalla, who represents the Maduro-controlled Central Bank of Venezuela, expects a decision in the case later in July or possibly not until September, following a four-day trial that concluded Monday.

The Venezuelan central bank argues that the gold is needed in the South American country, which has struggled under sanctions and the pandemic. Critics fear the Maduro regime will pocket the proceeds



War, markets, sanctions: U.S. surrenders to venezuala? (don't know enough yet): Chevron Corp has sold a cargo of Venezuelan crude oil to another U.S. refinery, Phillips 66, the first of such a sale since the United States sanctioned Venezuela's crude oil; ConocoPhillips' Venezuelan assets were nationalized in 2007—along with many other oil companies' assets.

zh commenter:

They went Commie. Then they Nationalized their oil industry and stiffed our Oil Majors. They thought they'd be like Kuwait and live large off oil revenues and nobody'd have to work. Unfortunately the USA got pissy and embargoed their oil, and nobody in Venezuela knew how to run the oil industry, and they couldn't get any outsiders to run things because they'd already stiffed the USA oil majors, and no one wanted to work oil fields anyway because they expected to live large like Kuwait. Now it's just a giant cluster**** with oceans of beautiful oil just sitting there with super easy access to the refineries in the USA, and both countries holding a grudge. Venezuelians are suffering bigtime and I can't get cheap gasoline for my Chevy K2500.

It's long past time to sit down and hammer out a deal, but unfortunately the adults aren't in charge anywhere.

Maduro, who was [re-elected president in 2018](#) in a vote critics at home and abroad denounced as a sham, had said he wanted to sell some of the gold at the height COVID-19 pandemic to shore up Venezuela's health service, brought to its knees by six years of recession and chronic shortages. He has blamed U.S. sanctions for worsening humanitarian conditions.

The UK's central bank holds nearly \$2 billion in gold that belongs to the government of Venezuela. Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro wants to access the gold, [but the UK government refuses to hand it over](#) since London recognizes Juan Guaido as president of Venezuela.

The UK supreme court opened a hearing on the matter on Monday, and London reaffirmed its recognition of Guaido. The court case is being fought between the board of the Central Bank of Venezuela that was appointed by Maduro and one appointed by Guaido.

"The UK recognizes Juan Guaidó as president of Venezuela and consequentially he is the only individual recognized to have the authority to act on behalf of Venezuela as its head of state," the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office said in a statement.

The US, UK, and other allies first recognized Guaido as interim president of Venezuela in January 2019. Since then, Guaido has lost what little support he had in Venezuela and has become increasingly irrelevant. In January of this year, after Guaido lost his seat in the National Assembly, [the EU said it no longer recognizes him as president](#).

Washington's regime change effort has been an utter failure. Besides the recognition of Guaido, which came along with a failed coup attempt, the US has also imposed a crippling sanctions regime on the country. While the pressure has done nothing to unseat Maduro, the sanctions have had a [devastating impact on Venezuela's civilian population](#).

Last week, the Biden administration recently took [one small step to ease sanctions on Venezuela](#) by allowing the country to import propane. But besides the propane move, President Biden is continuing the failed regime change policy of the Trump administration and [recently reaffirmed the US's recognition of Guaido](#).

Hugo Chavez: "There is no doubt whatsoever that the U.S. government, lead by Mr. Bush, planned and participated in a coup d'etat in Venezuela in April, 2002." found in zh comments

democracynow, 2005: "President Chavez was in New York last week for a summit of world leaders at the United Nations. In his speech, Chavez blasted US foreign policy and accused the Bush administration of trying to hijack the UN summit. He described the United States as a terrorist nation because it is harboring the televangelist Pat Robertson who recently called for his assassination. Chavez has long charged that the US was behind the aborted coup against him in 2002."

Censorship: **pretty serious statement about censorship from highly credible source: "To try and stifle digital dissent during a pandemic, when tweets and emails are some of the only forms of protest available to those locked in their homes, is deeply sinister", Nick Dearden, director of Global Justice Now.**

Read 12 replies

"For more than two years, a global movement has been speaking out against pharmaceutical greed and demanding that everyone, everywhere has the tools to combat pandemics," said Maaza Seyoum, a campaigner for the People's Vaccine Alliance. "Whatever nasty tricks companies and governments pull," she continued, "we cannot and will not be silenced."



Second, Pfizer & Moderna's lobbying group, BIO, fully funded a special content moderation campaign designed by a contractor called Public Good Projects (PGP), which worked w/Twitter to set content moderation rules around covid "misinformation." according to Fang.

BIO funded the PGP campaign, "Stronger," to the tune of \$1.275 million. **Its focus? Helping Twitter 'create content moderation bots,'** selecting which public health accounts would be verified, and helping to crowdsource content takedowns.

Of note, **the Moderna/Pfizer-funded campaign included regular emails to Twitter officials with takedown and verification requests.**

"Here's an example of those types of emails that went straight to Twitter's lobbyists and content moderators. **Many focused on @zerohedge, which was suspended.**"

Fang includes a screenshot of an email with **two excel spreadsheets** containing said requests.





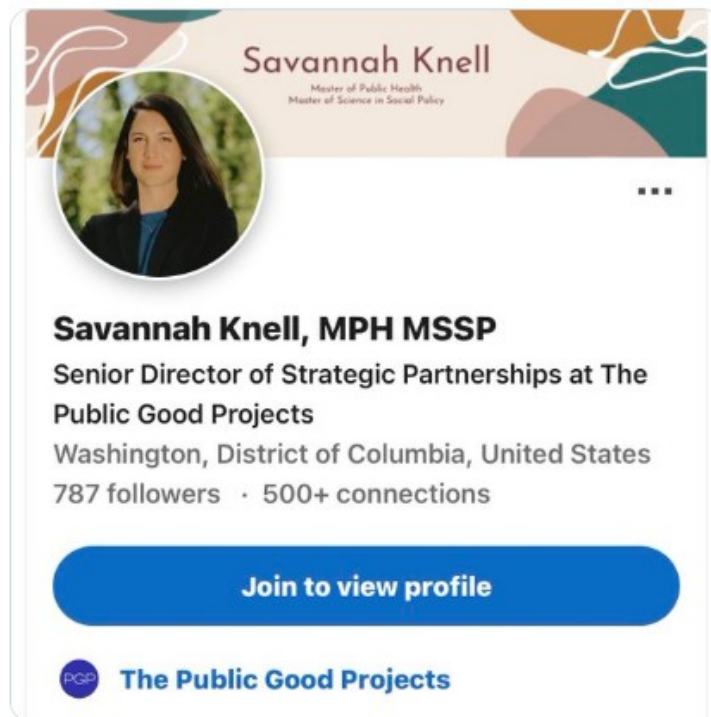
TexasLindsay™ · Jan 16, 2023



@TexasLindsay_ · [Follow](#)

Replying to @TexasLindsay_

3. So what does Knell do exactly? On LinkedIn, she claims to lead PGP's partnership strategy development & execution—working with “The Rockefeller Foundation, CDC Foundation, UNICEF, Yale Institute of Global Health, Meta, & more.”



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4. Knell claims to have extensive experience in Public Health Comm. & Social Marketing. And aims to “largely focus on managing the development & execution of strategically targeted & tailored behavior change campaigns with an eye toward health equity.”





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2. The woman advocating for the censorship of inconvenient truths at the behest of her funders rife with COI's is Savannah Knell, MPH MSSP, the Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships at The Public Good Projects (PGP).



2:18 PM · Jan 16, 2023



91



Reply



Share

[Read 11 replies](#)

"To translate the above into layman's terms she is a narrative enforcer. She's funded by Big Pharma and aided by Big Brother to be the ministry of truth. She aims to create social norms by means of censorship and propaganda. **She wants to tell you & I—how/what to say and think.**"

Meanwhile, as this bullying progressed this was happening...



Finally, as this latest 'Twitter Files' thread spreads across a holiday market, **Elon Musk himself has opined on the efforts to bully the former Twitter executives into censoring ZeroHedge:**



Musk Says ZeroHedge Did "Nothing Warranting Suspension" After 'Twitter Files' Expose Big Pharma Bullying



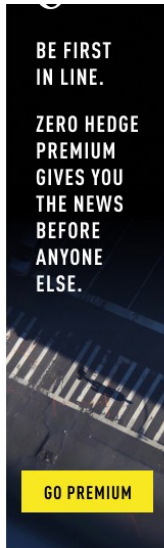
BY TYLER DURDEN

MONDAY, JAN 16, 2023 - 02:55 PM

Today's [Twitter Files drop](#) contains several notable pieces of **evidence**.



First, that lobbyists for the pharmaceutical industry launched a **'massive lobbying blitz to crush any effort to share patents/IP for new covid-related medicine,'** according to [The Intercept](#)'s Lee Fang. As part of this effort, lobbying group BIO "wrote to the newly elected Biden admin, **demanding the U.S. gov sanction any country attempting to violate patent rights and create generic low cost covid medicine or vaccines.**"



From Fang's [Intercept](#) piece, **below is one of the flagged tweets in question** - which [links](#) to a ZeroHedge article aggregated from NakedCapitalism, and which logically posits; "if a vaccinated person and an unvaccinated person have roughly the same capacity to carry, shed and transmit the virus, particularly in its Delta form, what difference does implementing a vaccination passport actually make to the spread of the virus?"

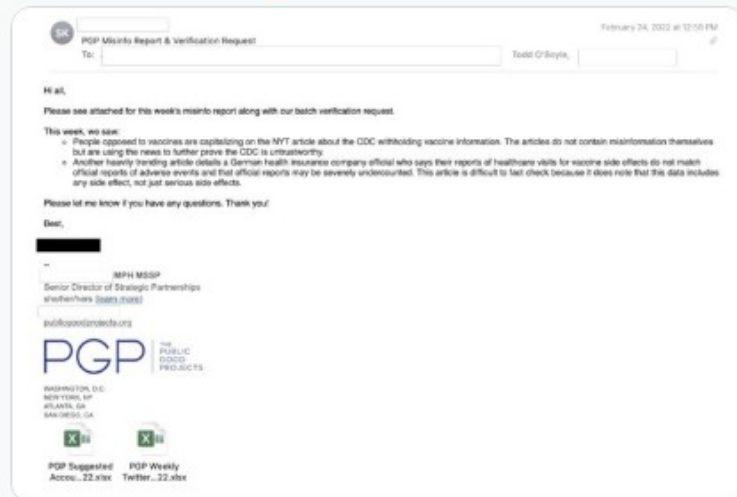


"To try and stifle digital dissent during a pandemic, when tweets and emails are some of the only forms of protest available to those locked in their homes, **is deeply sinister**," said Nick Dearden, director of Global Justice Now.

More on one of the people behind this effort, courtesy of Twitter user [@TexasLindsay_](#)



regular emails with lists of tweets to takedown & others to verify. Here's an example of those types of emails that went straight to Twitter's lobbyists and content moderators. Many focused on @zerohedge, which was suspended.



Lee Fang ✓
@lhfang · Follow

13. Notably, this massive push to censor and label covid misinfo never applied to drug companies. When big pharma wildly exaggerated the risks of creating low-cost generic covid vaccines, Stronger did nothing. The rules applied only to critics of industry.

PhRMA ✓ @PhRMA

The biopharma sector employs more than 900,000 workers and supports 4.4 million U.S. jobs. Those jobs would be at risk if the #TRIPS waiver is extended to #COVID19 treatments. Read more about the real consequences of waiving commitments to protect IP: onphr.ma/3WIS8ER

12:26 PM · Jan 16, 2023



2.6K



See the latest COVID-19 information on Twitter

[Read 18 replies](#)

Read 33 replies

Finally, as this latest 'Twitter Files' thread spreads across a holiday market, **Elon Musk himself has opined on the efforts to bully the former Twitter executives into censoring ZeroHedge:**



David Sacks · Jan 16, 2023

@DavidSacks · Follow

I've long followed and appreciated @zerohedge for of its irreverent market analysis. I never understood why it was censored — until now. It was at the behest of Big Pharma.



Lee Fang · @lhfang

Replying to @lhfang

12. The Moderna/Pfizer-funded campaign included direct regular emails with lists of tweets to takedown & others to verify. Here's an example of those types of emails that went straight to Twitter's lobbyists and content moderators. Many focused on @zerohedge, which was suspended.



Elon Musk ·

@elonmusk · Follow

Zerohedge can be jerks at times, but they did nothing warranting suspension

3:11 PM · Jan 16, 2023



6.2K



Reply



Share

Of note, Pfizer and BioNTech raked in **\$37 billion in revenue in 2021 alone** from the COVID-19 vaccine, while Moderna made \$17.7 billion the same year (and has recently announced a plan to hike the price of the Covid-19 vaccine by approximately [400%](#)).

BioNTech, which developed the Pfizer vaccine, "**reached out to Twitter to request that Twitter directly censor users tweeting at them to ask for generic low cost vaccines.**"

5. That brings us to Twitter. The global lobbying blitz includes direct pressure on social media. BioNTech, which developed Pfizer's vaccine, reached out to Twitter to request that Twitter directly censor users tweeting at them to ask for generic low cost vaccines. pic.twitter.com/6cVIRcUDZV

— Lee Fang (@lhfang) [January 16, 2023](#)

According to Fang, "**Twitter's reps responded quickly to the pharma request,**" while "A lobbyist in Europe [asked](#) the content moderation team to monitor the accounts of Pfizer, AstraZeneca & of activist hashtags like #peoplesvaccine."

Meanwhile, the "fake accounts" flagged by the pharmaceutical companies for action were **real people** - one of whom Fang spoke with on the phone.



"For more than two years, **a global movement has been speaking out against pharmaceutical greed and demanding that everyone, everywhere has the tools to combat pandemics,**" said Maaza Seyoum, a campaigner for the People's Vaccine Alliance. "Whatever nasty tricks companies and governments pull," she continued, "we cannot and will not be silenced."

"To try and stifle digital dissent during a pandemic, when tweets and emails are some of the only forms of protest available to those locked in their homes, **is deeply sinister**," said Nick Dearden, director of Global Justice Now.

More on one of the people behind this effort, courtesy of Twitter user [@TexasLindsay_](#)



TexasLindsay™ · Jan 16, 2023
[@TexasLindsay_](#) · [Follow](#)

1. So, who censored [@zerohedge](#)?
A woman who is deeply entangled with government agencies working at what one could arguable call a front organization funded by Big Pharma and fueled by government interests.
[#TwitterFiles](#)



Lee Fang · [@lhfang](#)

Replying to [@lhfang](#)

12. The Moderna/Pfizer-funded campaign included direct regular emails with lists of tweets to takedown & others to verify. Here's an example of those types of emails that went straight to Twitter's lobbyists and content moderators. Many focused on [@zerohedge](#), which was suspended.



The screenshot shows an email titled "PGP Misinfo Report & Verification Request" sent to "Todd O'Shea" on February 24, 2022 at 12:08 PM. The email body includes a greeting "Hi all," followed by a reference to a "misinfo report" and a "batch verification request." It lists two points: "People opposed to vaccines are capitalizing on the NYT article about the CDC withholding vaccine information. The articles do not contain misinformation themselves but are using the news to further prove the CDC is untrustworthy." and "Another heavily trending article details a German health insurance company official who says their reports of healthcare visits for vaccine side effects do not match official reports of adverse events and that official reports may be severely undercounted. This article is difficult to fact check because it does note that this data includes any side effect, not just serious side effects." The email concludes with "Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!" and a signature block for MPH MISP, Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships, with a phone number (888) 338-5383 and the website publicgoodscdc.org. The PGP logo is also present, along with office locations in Washington, D.C., New York, NY, Atlanta, GA, and San Diego, CA. At the bottom, it says "PGP Suggested Access...22.xlsx" and "PGP Weekly Twitter...22.xlsx".



TexasLindsay™ · [@TexasLindsay_](#) · [Follow](#)

2. The woman advocating for the censorship of inconvenient truths at the behest of her funders rife

Censorship: **crazy flagged tweet I found from the twitter files on zerohedge (these are coordinated leaks, by the way. it's our leadership basically just telling us that we're being censored, moderated, and watched all the time on the internet)**



From Fang's [Intercept](#) piece, below is one of the flagged tweets in question - which [links](#) to a ZeroHedge article aggregated from NakedCapitalism, and which logically posits; "if a vaccinated person and an unvaccinated person have roughly the same capacity to carry, shed and transmit the virus, particularly in its Delta form, what difference does implementing a vaccination passport actually make to the spread of the virus?"



"To try and stifle digital dissent during a pandemic, when tweets and emails are some of the only forms of protest available to those locked in their homes, **is deeply sinister**," said Nick Dearden, director of Global Justice Now.

More on one of the people behind this effort, courtesy of Twitter user [@TexasLindsay_](#)



Rome, history: **The Bar Kokhba revolt greatly influenced the course of Jewish history and the philosophy of the Jewish religion; among the key events to differentiate Christianity as a religion distinct from Judaism.**

Following the Fall of Betar, the Roman forces went on a rampage of systematic killing, eliminating all remaining Jewish villages in the region and seeking out the refugees. [Legio III Cyrenaica](#) was the main force to execute this last phase of the campaign. Historians disagree on the duration of the Roman campaign following the fall of Betar. While some claim further resistance was broken quickly, others argue that

pockets of Jewish rebels continued to hide with their families into the winter months of late 135 and possibly even spring 136. By early 136 however, it is clear that the revolt was defeated.^[65]

Aftermath^[edit]

Jewish casualties and the destruction of Judean countryside^[edit]

Modern historians view the Bar Kokhba Revolt as having decisive historic importance.^[15] They note that, unlike in the aftermath of the [First Jewish–Roman War](#), the Jewish population of [Judea](#) was devastated after the revolt, with many Jews being killed, exiled, or sold into slavery.^[15] Jewish religious and political authority was suppressed far more brutally than before. In his account of the revolt, Roman historian [Cassius Dio](#) (c. 155–235) wrote that:^[18]

50 of their most important outposts and 985 of their most famous villages were razed to the ground. 580,000 men were slain in the various raids and battles, and the number of those that perished by famine, disease and fire was past finding out, Thus nearly the whole of Judaea was made desolate.

— *Cassius Dio, History of Rome, 69.14.1-2*

In 1981, Schäfer suggested that Dio exaggerated his numbers.^[66] On the other hand, in 2003 Cotton considered Dio's figures highly plausible, in light of accurate Roman census declarations.^[67] The ethno-archaeological comparison analysis by Dvir Raviv and Chaim Ben David, published in 2021, asserts of sufficient accuracy in Dio's depopulation claims as a "reliable account, which he based on contemporaneous documentation".^[18] As of today, no village in the region of Judea whose remains have been excavated so far has not been destroyed in the revolt.^[68] Some scholars describe the destruction of the Jewish communities in Judea as a [genocide](#).^{[15][19]}

Sources indicate that Jewish captives were sold into slavery and sent to various parts of the empire.^[16] A chronicle written in the 7th century CE, which was based on lost ancient sources, states that "Jewish captives were sold for the price of one ration of food for a horse."^[69] This number indicates that the slave market was flooded with new slaves.

Captives who were not sold as slaves were deported to Gaza, Egypt and elsewhere, greatly adding to the Jewish diaspora.^[69] [Rabbinic Judaism](#) had already become a portable religion, centered on [synagogues](#).

Jewish presence in the region significantly dwindled after the failure of the Bar Kokhba revolt,^[70] and pagan populations penetrated it.^[71] Nevertheless, there was a continuous small Jewish presence and [Galilee](#) became its religious center.^{[72][73]} Some of the Judean survivors resettled in Galilee, with some rabbinical families gathering in [Sepphoris](#).^[74] The [Mishnah](#) and part of the [Talmud](#), central Jewish texts, were composed during the 2nd to 4th centuries CE in Galilee.^[75] Jewish communities were still present on the edges of Judea, including [Eleutheropolis](#),^[76] [Ein Gedi](#),^[77] and the southern [Hebron Hills](#). There were also Jewish communities along the coastal plain, in [Caesarea](#), [Beit She'an](#) and on the [Golan Heights](#).^{[78][79]} In the aftermath of the defeat, the maintenance of Jewish settlement in Palestine became a major concern of the rabbinate.^[80] The Sages endeavoured to halt Jewish [dispersal](#), and even banned emigration from Palestine, branding those who settled outside its borders as idolaters.^[80]

The [Galilee](#) in [late antiquity](#)

Roman losses[\[edit\]](#)

Schematic reconstruction of the Arch of Hadrian in Tel Shalem, dedicated to the Emperor for defeating the Jewish revolt of 132–135

Cassius Dio wrote that "Many Romans, moreover, perished in this war. Therefore, Hadrian, in writing to the Senate, did not employ the opening phrase commonly affected by the emperors: 'If you and your children are in health, it is well; I and the army are in health.'"^[81] Some argue that the exceptional number of preserved Roman veteran diplomas from the late 150s and 160 CE indicate an unprecedented conscription across the Roman Empire to replenish heavy losses within military legions and auxiliary units between 133 and 135, corresponding to the revolt.^[82]

After the suppression of the revolt, Hadrian promulgated a series of religious edicts aimed at uprooting the Jewish nationalism in Judea.^{[9][68]} He prohibited [Torah](#) law and the [Hebrew calendar](#), and executed Judaic scholars. The sacred scrolls of Judaism were ceremonially burned at the large Temple complex for Jupiter which he built on the [Temple Mount](#). At this Temple, he installed two statues, one of [Jupiter](#), another of himself. These proclamations remained in effect until Hadrian's death in 138, which marked a significant relief to the surviving Jewish communities.^[68]

A further, more lasting punishment was also implemented by the Romans.^[68] In an attempt to erase any memory of Judea or [Ancient Israel](#), the name Judaea was dropped from the provincial name, and [Provincia Iudaea](#) was renamed [Syria Palaestina](#).^{[22][23]}^[24] Despite such name changes taking place elsewhere, rebellions have never resulted in a nation's name being expunged.^[68] Similarly, under the argument to ensure the prosperity of the newly founded [Roman colony](#) of [Aelia Capitolina](#), Jews were forbidden to enter, except on the day of [Tisha B'Av](#).^[87] By destroying the association of Jews with Judea and forbidding the practice of the Jewish faith, Hadrian aimed to root out a nation that had inflicted heavy casualties on the Roman Empire.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bar_Kokhba_revolt

The ruins of [Betar](#), the last standing stronghold of Bar Kokhba, can be found at *Khirbet al-Yahud*, an archeological site located in the vicinity of [Battir](#) and [Beitar Illit](#). A stone inscription bearing Latin characters and discovered near the site shows that the [Fifth Macedonian Legion](#) and the [Eleventh Claudian Legion](#) took part in the siege.^[116]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XI_Claudia

Hadrian energetically pursued his own Imperial ideals and personal interests. He visited almost every province of the Empire, accompanied by an Imperial retinue of specialists and administrators. He encouraged military preparedness and discipline, and he fostered, designed, or personally subsidised various civil and religious institutions and building projects. In Rome itself, he rebuilt the [Pantheon](#) and constructed the vast [Temple of Venus and Roma](#). In Egypt, he may have rebuilt the [Serapeum of Alexandria](#). He was an ardent admirer of Greece and sought to make Athens the cultural capital of the Empire, so he ordered the construction of many opulent temples there. His intense relationship with Greek youth [Antinous](#) and the latter's untimely death led Hadrian to establish a widespread cult late in his reign. He suppressed the [Bar Kokhba revolt](#) in [Judaea](#).

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadrian>

Hideout systems^{[[edit](#)]}

Entrance into an excavated cave used by Bar Kokhba's rebels, [Khirbet Midras](#)

The Bar Kokhba revolt has been better understood thanks to the discovery of artificially-carved hideout systems under many sites across Judea. Their discovery is consistent with [Cassius Dio](#)'s writings, which reported that the rebels used underground networks as part of their tactics to avoid direct confrontations with the Romans. Many were hewn in earlier times and were utilized by rebels during the revolt as indicated by the usage of [Bar Kokhba revolt coinage](#) and other archeological findings.^{[117][120]}

Hideout systems were found at more than 130 archaeological sites in Judea; most of them in the [Judaean Lowlands](#), but also in other areas of Judea and even in the Galilee.^[117] Examples include: [Hurvath Midras](#), [Tel Goded](#), [Maresha](#), [Aboud](#) and others.

Rome, history, Germany, war: **nasi**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nasi_\(Hebrew_title\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nasi_(Hebrew_title))

markets: **What a slave can go through sometimes, basically...**

A woman in [Singapore](#) who joined her daughter in abusing a domestic worker until she died of a brain injury has been sentenced to 14 years' jail.

Prema S Naraynasamy, 64, was given the sentence on Monday over the abuse of 24-year-old [Myanmar](#) national Piang Ngaih Don.

Prema had pleaded guilty in November to 48 charges, mostly of voluntarily causing hurt to a domestic worker.

Her acts of abuse include: Pouring or spraying water on the 24-year-old domestic helper, kicking, punching and slapping her, grabbing her by the neck, pulling her up by her hair and "spinning" her head violently.

She also hit the domestic worker with items like a spatula, a towel and a detergent bottle, and watched as the helper used the toilet.

The domestic helper died of brain injury with severe blunt trauma to her neck on July 26, 2016, after 14 months of repeated abuse.

She was punched, stamped on and starved until she was only 24kg. In the days before she died, she was tied to a window grille at night and assaulted if she tried to rummage for food from the dustbin.

The assault that led to the victim's death occurred from the night of July 25, 2016 into the morning of July 26, 2016.

The helper was doing laundry at about 11:40pm on July 25, 2016, when Prema's daughter, Gaiyathiri Murugayan, felt she was too slow. She assaulted her and struck her head with a detergent bottle.

Gaiyathiri called Prema over, and together they assaulted the victim, splashing water on her. Prema dragged the victim across the kitchen and living room to the bedroom, where Gaiyathiri kicked her in the stomach and Prema punched and strangled her. After refusing the domestic worker any dinner, Gaiyathiri tied the victim's wrist forcefully to the window grille just before midnight and kicked her in the stomach, before leaving her on the floor in wet clothes.

Ms Piang Ngaih Don did not wake up after that. Mother and daughter called in a doctor, lying about what happened, and were later arrested.

Markets, war: CROWD FUNDING, BUT FOR A COUP IN BERMA (MYANNMAR)

- Almost half the money is from sale of so-called Spring Revolution Special Treasury Bonds; 'our

investors know they will benefit only if this revolution is successful'

- One person has given US\$6 million, funds also raised through auction of properties, including mansions owned by junta chief; junta seized power in February 2021
- Myanmar's shadow National Unity Government said it has raised more than US\$100 million to fund its democracy effort and topple the junta.

About 45 per cent of the funds are from the sales of so-called Spring Revolution Special Treasury Bonds, according to Tin Tun Naing, shadow minister for planning, finance and investment. The debt does not pay interest and the capital will be repaid only when the democracy effort is successful.

Funds were also raised through the auction of military-linked properties. While buyers will not have immediate access to the properties which they had successfully bid on and paid for, the National Unity Government has promised they will be awarded the assets after the junta rule.

Among the assets open for bids were two mansions owned by junta chief Min Aung Hlaing, Tin Tun Naing said at a press briefing on Sunday. The funds will be "effectively used in different sectors" to ensure positive results from the democracy fight in about a year, he said.

The shadow government will soon legalise an initial coin offering (the cryptocurrency industry's equivalent of an IPO, or initial public offering) to put cryptocurrencies at the centre of its finance plan while accepting fixed deposits in the form of money

transfers and cryptocurrency deposits in a bank that will be set up soon, Tin Tun Naing said.

“To ensure the revolution will bear fruit in one year, we will make use of blockchain and cryptocurrencies to establish the Spring Development Bank by the end of next month,” he said. Anyone keen on funding the government is encouraged to use its banking functions which will be available in the first quarter of this year, he said.

The group previously tried to gain access to US\$1 billion of funds frozen by the US since February 2021, when the country’s armed forces toppled a civilian government. Allies of deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi make up the shadow government, which remains confident it can regain control of the entire country soon. Nobel laureate Suu Kyi, 77, is serving a 33-year sentence after she was found guilty of a slew of criminal charges including corruption and inciting dissent against the military.

War, sanctions, markets, energy, censorship: **Germany Opens Its 2nd Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal**

Chancellor Olaf Scholz took part in the ceremony in Lubmin on the Baltic Sea coast, which came less than a month after he inaugurated Germany's [first LNG terminal](#) at Wilhelmshaven on the North Sea. Several more are expected to go online in the coming months, including another in Lubmin.

2 stalled LNG projects in Nova Scotia may be on the brink of revival

TOO FUCKING LATE NOW.....THAT'S HOW IT WORKS YOU STUPPPPPPID

UUUCKLLKKKKKKKKKK
KKKKKKKKKKKKKS

cbcDOTca/news/canada/nova-scotia/2-Ing-proposals-could-move-forward-bear-head-golddboro-1.6447671

war, sanctions: **narco insurgents, is this the next enemy? "This Congressman Wants the U.S. To Use Military Force Against Mexican Cartels". Reason jan16**

These shoots outs are starting to look like a lot more than arrests, and more like armed insurgents fighting an enemy. America has few that it actually considers an enemy, but, you do end up on their enemies list, it is very bad for the group, or even individual.....History, is replete with example of those that have hurt Americans ending up in almost certain. The point is, America is nice to those that hate it, but if you actually start posing a threat, it doesn't end well...In this case, America will have eventually have full right to send their troops into Mexican territory to deal with these narco insurgents, similar to the way they have dealt with other enemies of the past, ie. ISIS, al-Qaeda, Boko Haram.

"One interventionist congressman thinks the solution is American military might. Speaking about the cartel violence, Rep. Mike Waltz (R-Fla.) told Fox News host Maria Bartiromo on Sunday that "we need to go on offense against them" since "the cartels are destabilizing our neighbor" and "running our border.""

reasondotcom/2023/01/10/this-congressman-wants-the-u-s-to-use-military-force-against-mexican-cartels/

war, Israel, censorship, iran: 'We Are Not Afraid': 80,000 Israelis Protest Extremist Netanyahu Gov't in Tel Aviv

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Tech: Air taxis are predicted to hit the skies in 2024 and 2025 in a handful of cities around the world

Europe regulator sees first flying taxis in 2024 or 2025

PARIS, May 19 (Reuters) - Europe could see the first flying taxis enter service as early as 2024, the region's top aviation regulator said on Wednesday.

More than half a dozen European firms have announced developments of Urban Air Mobility vehicles for passenger use or for unmanned cargo sorties such as delivering medical supplies.

"I believe that commercial use of (air) taxis can start to take place in 2024 or 2025," Patrick Ky, executive director of the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) said.

EASA cited figures suggesting a 4.2-billion-euro UAM market in Europe by 2030, creating 90,000 jobs. Some 31% of the global market for the new technology would be based in Europe.

EASA has already started the process of certifying some of the designs and expects first approvals for the lightweight machines by around 2024, Ky told reporters.

German startup Volocopter and backers of other projects such as Aeroports de Paris ([ADP.PA](#)) hope to demonstrate the technology in time for the Paris Olympics in 2024.

How quickly such vehicles enter service will also depend on operational approvals examining whether they are flying over urban centres or potential hazards such as railways, Ky said.

EASA is focusing on projects involving piloted vehicles for passengers and unpiloted drones for cargo deliveries. Fully autonomous vehicles are still some years away, Ky said.

Ky was speaking as the Cologne-based agency released a study showing broad public support for such electrically powered vehicles, capable of taking off and landing vertically.

War: [jan16](#) German Defense Minister Resigns As Criticism Over Ukraine Mounts

War, markets: january.2 (this was why i waiting to read into the weather. figured it would continue, so chose not to read for better shock value. This article was written on JANUARY 2ND!!! IT'S NOW JAN 16TH, AND THE WEATHER HAS NOT CHANGED ,BUT IN FACT, GOTTEN MORE CRAZY): "Thousands of records shattered in historic winter warm spell in Europe"

As 2022 turned to 2023, an exceptionally strong wintertime heat dome pounced on much of Europe, producing unprecedented warmth for January. As temperatures soared 18 to 36 degrees Fahrenheit (10 to 20 Celsius) above normal from France to western Russia, thousands of records were broken between Saturday and Monday — many by large margins.

On New Year's Day, at least seven countries saw their warmest January weather on record as temperatures surged to springtime levels: Latvia hit 52 degrees (11.1 Celsius); [Denmark](#) 54.7 degrees (12.6 Celsius); Lithuania 58.3 degrees (14.6 Celsius); Belarus 61.5 degrees (16.4 Celsius); the Netherlands 62.4 degrees (16.9 Celsius); Poland 66.2 degrees (19.0 Celsius); and the Czech Republic 67.3 degrees (19.6 Celsius).

Those who track worldwide weather records described the warm spell as historic and could hardly believe its scope and magnitude.

Maximiliano Herrera, a climatologist who tracks global weather extremes, called the event “totally insane” and “absolute madness” in text messages to the Capital Weather Gang. He wrote that some of the high nighttime temperatures observed were uncommon in midsummer.

It's "the most extreme event ever seen in European climatology," Herrera wrote. "Nothing stands close to this."

Guillaume Séchet, a broadcast meteorologist in France, agreed, [tweeting](#) that Sunday was one of the most incredible days in Europe's climate history.

"The intensity and extent of warmth in Europe right now is hard to comprehend," [tweeted](#) Scott Duncan, a meteorologist based in London.

Here are some of the most impressive records that were set in Europe on New Year's Day:

- In Poland, it was so warm that the January national high-temperature record was broken before sunrise. The town of [Glucholazy](#) was 65.7 degrees at 4 a.m., which is warmer than its average low temperature in midsummer. Temperatures rose further as the day progressed.
- Bilbao, Spain, reached 77.2 degrees (25.1 Celsius), its [hottest January day](#).
- Trois-Ville, France, reached 76.8 degrees (24.9 Celsius), [a record for the month](#). It was [among more than 100 records](#) set across the country Sunday, [including](#) 75.2 degrees (24.0 Celsius) in Dax, and 65.5 degrees (18.6 Celsius) at stations with data dating to the 1800s in Besançon and Châteauroux.
- Ohlsbach, Germany, reached 66.9 degrees (19.4 Celsius) for a monthly record and the [highest temperature of the day in Germany](#). Other locations, including Berlin at 60.8 degrees (16 Celsius), also set [January records](#). Berlin was among the places that set [records both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day](#).
- Warsaw's high of 66.2 degrees (19 Celsius) demolished the [its previous January record](#) by 9.2 degrees (5.1 Celsius).

While the most extreme temperatures occurred on New Year's Day, exceptionally mild weather began on New Year's Eve.

Scores of calendar day and monthly records fell on Saturday, surpassing marks set just a year before in many instances.

The Czech Republic's weather service [tweeted](#) that the country posted its warmest New Year's Eve on record. Prague, with [247 years of measurements](#), set a new monthly maximum of 63.9 degrees (17.7 Celsius). Here are some of the more significant temperature records set Saturday:

- France saw impressive record values such as a high of 76.6 degrees (24.8 Celsius) in Verdun. The [country as a whole](#) saw its warmest New Year's Eve.

- [Six of nine federal states](#) in mountainous Austria saw their warmest Dec. 31 on record. Temperatures were as warm as 64.9 degrees (18.3 Celsius) in Aspach.
- Luxembourg set a December record for the country with 64.0 degrees (17.8 Celsius) [in Wormeldange](#). Belgium reached a December record high of 63.5 degrees (17.5 Celsius) [at Diepenbeek](#).
- Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler bested Germany's [highest December minimum](#) as it only dipped to 59.5 degrees (15.3 Celsius).

Monday marked the third day of widespread high temperatures previously unheard of in midwinter. Many more monthly and daily records were set in the eastern half of Europe, particularly in Germany, Hungary, Romania and Russia.

By Tuesday, the places where temperatures will be the most above-average are likely to shift toward Ukraine. After that, the warmth should ease some.

This exceptional wintertime warmth comes on the heels of the warmest 2022 in many parts of Europe, including in [the U.K.](#), [Germany](#) and [Switzerland](#). Although the warmth is slowly easing in Europe as [Arctic air creeps in from the northeast](#), above-normal temperatures are forecast for much of the mainland region through at least Jan. 10. After that, the forecast is a little less clear, but a cooler pattern could emerge by mid-month.

Rome, censorship, history: The censor's regulation of public morality is the origin of the modern meaning of the words censor and censorship

Initially, the office of censor was limited to eighteen months by a law of the [dictator Mamercus Aemilius Mamercinus](#);[8] and the office therefore was of less importance in the 5th and 4th centuries BC. However, during the censorship of [Appius Claudius Caecus](#) (312–308 BC) the prestige of the censorship massively increased. Caecus built the first-ever [Roman road](#) (the [Via Appia](#)) and the first [Roman aqueduct](#) (the [Aqua Appia](#)), both named after him.[9] He changed the organisation of the [Roman tribes](#) and was the first censor to draw the list of [senators](#). He also advocated the founding of Roman [coloniae](#) throughout [Latium](#) and [Campania](#) to support the Roman war effort in the [Second Samnite War](#). With these efforts and reforms, Appius Claudius Caecus was able to hold the censorship for a whole *lustrum* (five-year period), and the office of censor, subsequently entrusted with various important duties, eventually attained one of the highest political statuses in the Roman Republic, second only to that of the consuls.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_censor

history: Seppuku, a ritualistic act of disembowelment called hara-kiri, is a form of Japanese ritual suicide by disembowelment from Japan's ancient samurai warrior class

Often called “hara-kiri” in the West, “seppuku” is a form of ritual suicide that originated with Japan’s ancient samurai warrior class. The grisly act typically involved stabbing oneself in the belly with a short sword, slicing open the stomach and then turning the blade upwards to ensure a fatal wound. Some practitioners of seppuku allowed themselves to die slowly, but they usually enlisted the help of a “kaishakunin,” or second, who would lop off their head with a katana as soon as they made their initial cut. The entire process was accompanied by great ceremony. Among other rituals, the doomed individual often drank sake and composed a short “death poem” before taking up the blade.

Seppuku first developed in the 12th century as a means for samurai to achieve an honorable death. Swordsmen performed the ritual to avoid capture following battlefield defeats, but it also functioned as a means of protest and a way of expressing grief over the death of a revered leader. Beginning in the 1400s, seppuku evolved into a common form of capital punishment for samurai who had committed crimes. In each case, it was considered an act of extreme bravery and self-sacrifice that embodied Bushido, the ancient warrior code of the samurai. There was even a female version of seppuku called “jigai,” which involved cutting the throat using a special knife known as a “tanto.”

War: jan16 medvedev says japanese parliament leader should ritually disembowel himself

Medvedev is a prominent ally of President Vladimir Putin who serves as deputy chairman of Russia’s Security Council and of a body overseeing the defence industry.

He was responding to a meeting on Friday between Kishida and Biden, after which the two leaders issued a joint statement saying, “We state unequivocally that any use of a nuclear weapon by Russia in Ukraine would be an act of hostility against humanity and unjustifiable in any way.”

On Saturday, Kishida said the G7 summit of major industrialised nations in Hiroshima in May should demonstrate a strong will to uphold international order and rule of law after Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

Medvedev said the nuclear statement showed “paranoia” towards Russia and “betrayed the memory of hundreds of thousands of Japanese who were burned in the nuclear fire of Hiroshima and Nagasaki” – a reference to the atomic bombs that the United States dropped on Japan before its surrender at the end of World War II.

Rather than demanding US repentance for this, Kishida had shown he was “just a service attendant for the Americans”.

He said such shame could only be washed away by committing “seppuku” – a form of suicide by disembowelment, also known as “hara-kiri” – at a meeting of the Japanese cabinet after Kishida’s return.


← → aajazeera.com/news/2023/1/14/russias-medvedev-says-japanese-pm-should-disembowel-himself

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Russia's Medvedev says Japanese PM should disembowel himself

Former president once seen as a reformer has reinvented himself as an arch-hawk since Russia invaded Ukraine last year.



Medvedev has made a long line of shocking and provocative statements since Russia invaded Ukraine [File: Sputnik/Yulia Zyryanova/Pool via Reuters]


14 Jan 2023

Former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has accused Japanese Prime Minister

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Censorship, war, media: jan16

The charges against a prominent [Saudi Arabian](#) preacher facing the death penalty include the use of social media accounts and messaging apps, according to court documents.

Awad al-Qarni, 65, had "admitted" to using a Twitter account under his name "at every opportunity... to express his opinions", the documents seen by the [Guardian](#) revealed on Sunday.

Qarni was arrested in 2017 in a sweeping crackdown on preachers, academics, journalists, businesspeople and others.

The allegations against him also included the creation of a Telegram account and sharing news considered "hostile" to the kingdom in a WhatsApp chat.

Additionally, the law professor was accused of praising the Muslim Brotherhood movement in a video.

Admissions and [confessions](#) during interrogations in Saudi prisons are often taken after [torture and mistreatment](#).

A year after his arrest, the public prosecutor called for Qarni to face the death penalty along with [Salman Odah](#) and [Ali al-Omari](#).

Qarni, Omari and Odah are independent religious and media figures with a large following among Saudi Arabian and Arab youth.

The Saudi government has been accused by human rights groups of a widespread crackdown on dissent and freedom of expression.

Last year, the kingdom executed 147 people, including the mass execution of [81 people](#) in one day, according to the [European Saudi Organization for Human Rights](#).

War: jan16 **Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov told BBC on Friday that Ukraine is a “de facto” NATO member since it’s equipped with so many of the alliance’s weapons**

“This concern about the next level of escalation, for me, is some kind of protocol,” Reznikov said. “Ukraine as a country, and the armed forces of Ukraine, became the member of NATO. De facto, not de jure [by law]. Because we have weaponry, and the understanding of how to use it.”

Reznikov [made similar comments earlier this month](#) when he said in an interview on Ukrainian TV that his country was “shedding blood” for a “NATO mission.” His view aligns with that of Russian officials who have repeatedly stated that they are not just fighting a war against Ukraine but also against the US and NATO.

In comments to *BBC*, Reznikov dismissed the idea that what he was saying is controversial even though it implicates that NATO is a direct party to the conflict. “Why [would it be] controversial? It’s true. It’s a fact. I’m sure that in the near future, we’ll become member of NATO, de jure,” he said.

War: The US has about 2,500 troops in Iraq, a presence that supports the US occupation of eastern Syria

American troops are in the country to train government forces against ISIS, but in recent years, the US has been at odds with Iraqi Shia militias that it once allied with to fight ISIS.

The drone strike enraged many in Iraq, and Iraq's parliament [voted to expel US forces](#) shortly after, but the US refused to leave.

Health, censorship, vaccine, media: Stephanie Warriner killed for not wearing a mask in a hospital by security guards

Scottish four-year-olds can change gender at school without parents' consent jan16

Children as young as four will be able to change their name and gender at school without their parents' consent under new LGBT inclusivity guidelines drawn up by the Scottish Government.

A 70-page document, issued to schools [north of the border](#) on Thursday, calls on teachers not to question pupils if they say that they want to transition to live as a boy or a girl and to instead ask them for their new name and pronouns.

The controversial guidance claims that it is possible to "come out" as transgender "at any age" and that the views of young people should be respected if they do not want their parents to be informed.

Scotland's schools have also been told that trans pupils should be able to use whatever lavatory or changing room they choose, to develop "gender neutral" uniform options, and to include transgender characters and role models in reading material and lessons.

[LGBT advocacy groups such as Stonewall](#), which helped draw up the guidance, welcomed the move and claimed the rules would help all children to "thrive".

Markets, inflation: **Martin Armstrong of armstrong economics, says inflation ended in 2022 at 32%**

Media, censorship: LAPD Chief Blasted For "Political Pandering" After Banning 'Blue Lives Matter' Flag From Los Angeles Police Stations

Vaccine, censorship, health: jan16 The cause of the rise in Covid deaths is *hard to explain.*, says japanese official...

JMA director on increased Covid deaths: "There's a lot we don't know, and we don't have evidence."

Dr [Satoshi Kamayachi](#)

In total, the government has paid out ¥7.6 trillion (equivalent to the annual GDP of Belarus) in “Emergency Comprehensive Support Payments (緊急包括支援交付金)” for hospital beds, bonuses for medical personnel, etc. You can see why Japan’s medical establishment is in no rush to end the pandemic. Like the vaccine manufacturers, they’ve made a killing.

緊急包括支援交付金等 7.6兆円

- 緊急包括支援交付金 : 6.8兆円 (病床確保支援、医療従事者への慰労金支給、感染拡大防止等支援、ワクチン接種体制支援)
- 病床確保のための緊急支援 : 0.3兆円
- その他国直轄補助金 : 0.5兆円 (インフルエンザ流行期に備えた発熱外来体制の構築、感染防止等支援、労災上乗せ保険支援)

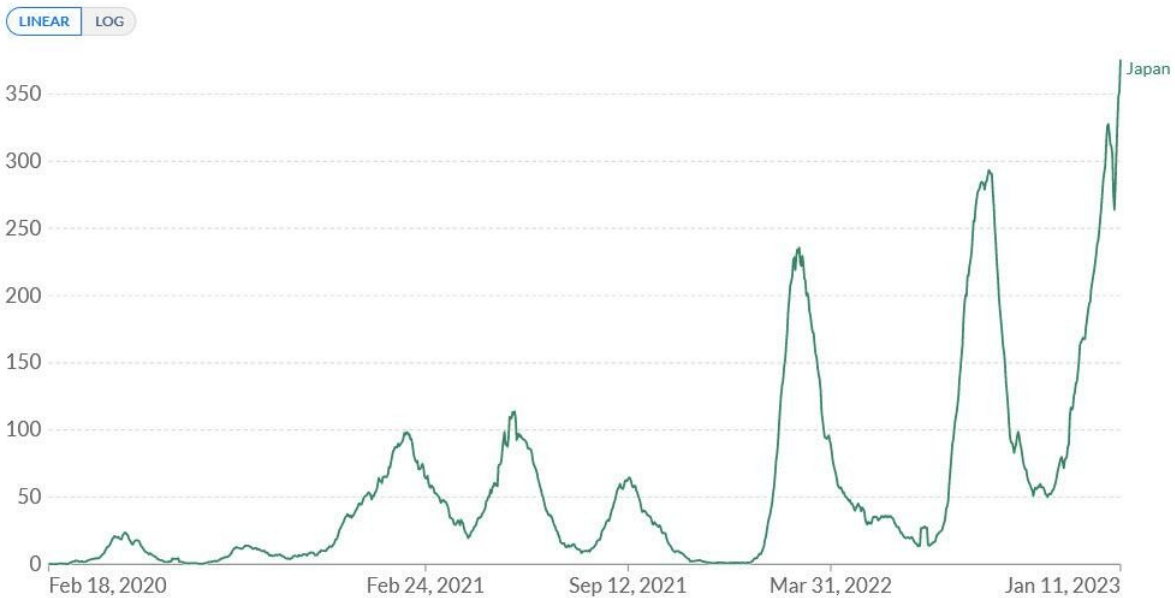
The MoF puts the total amount spent by the government on jabs, hospitals, tests, etc. at ¥17 trillion. To help cover these costs, it would’ve been nice if the government hadn’t strangled

the economy for long periods over the last few years. But they did.

Daily new confirmed COVID-19 deaths

7-day rolling average. Due to varying protocols and challenges in the attribution of the cause of death, the number of confirmed deaths may not accurately represent the true number of deaths caused by COVID-19.

Our World
in Data



Health, censorship, war, population: world's population, which now stands at a whopping 8 billion, has more than tripled since the mid-20th century.

Top 50 countries with largest population in 2022

| Top 50 countries 6.9B. Rest of world 1.1B. Total 8.0B



Top 50 countries with largest population in 2050

| Top 50 countries 8.3B. Rest of world 1.4B. Total 9.7B



Ira, war: jan14 Islamic Republic's former deputy defense minister Alireza Akbari killed by hanging on Saturday after being accused of spying for the United Kingdom for a period spanning years.

Iran's intelligence ministry called Mr. Akbari a "super spy" for MI6, Britain's foreign intelligence service, and accused him of passing classified national security information to the agency and receiving a payment of over 2 million euros (about \$2.2 million). Iran's state news media and his family said he had been arrested and detained for four months in 2008 on suspicion of spying for Britain, and later released on bail. He then traveled to Austria, Spain and finally Britain.

The statement from the judiciary said that Mr. Akbari had spied for Britain from 2004 to 2009, as well as when he "fled the country" and moved to Britain. It said he had been recruited by British diplomats in Tehran under the guise of trade partnerships.

Iran is saying he confessed to spying, while his family maintains that the confession was given under extreme duress.

His obtaining British citizenship and a passport after reportedly completing business deals in the UK brought him under immediate Iranian government suspicion. **Tehran says the UK passport was a reward for his spying services.**

Media, censorship, war: Brazil Launches Formal Investigation Of Bolsonaro, Arrests His Justice Minister, Over Riots

Censorship, tech: (unconfirmed)A Roomba recorded a woman on the toilet. How did screenshots end up on Facebook?

In the fall of 2020, gig workers in Venezuela posted a series of images to online forums where they gathered to talk shop. The photos were mundane, if sometimes intimate, household scenes captured from low angles—including some you really wouldn't want shared on the Internet.

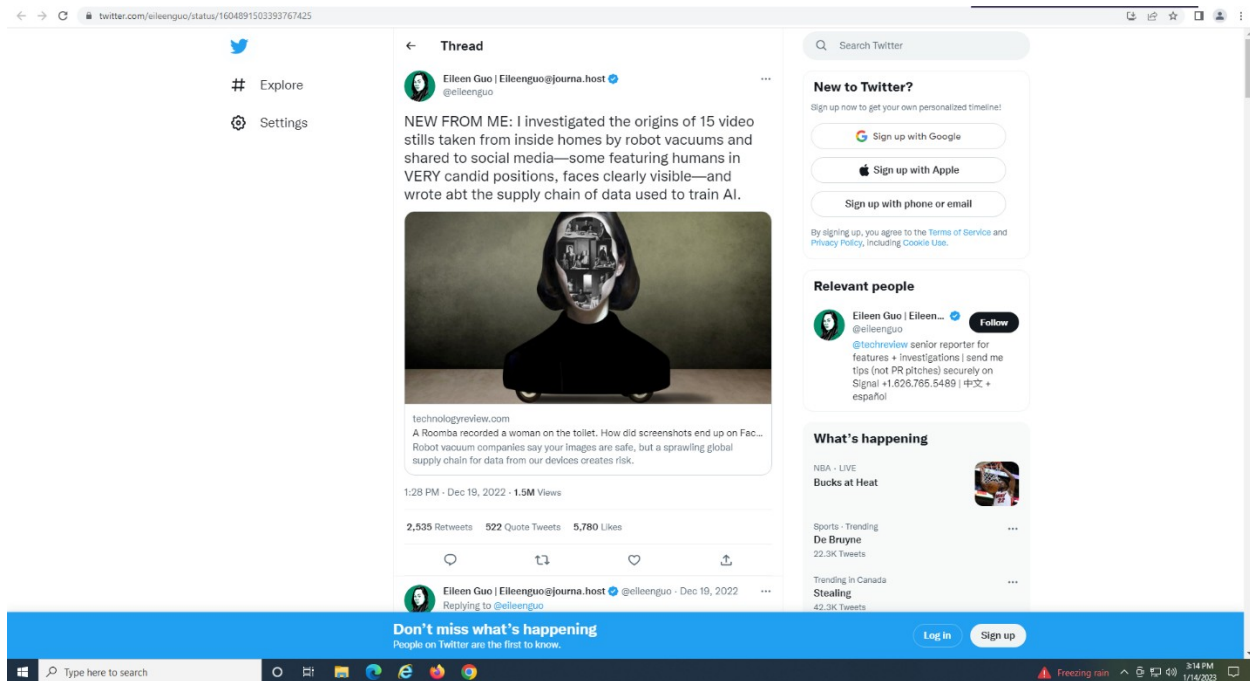
In one particularly revealing shot, a young woman in a lavender T-shirt sits on the toilet, her shorts pulled down to mid-thigh.

The images were not taken by a person, but by development versions of iRobot's Roomba J7 series robot vacuum. They were then sent to Scale AI, a startup that contracts workers around the world to label audio, photo, and video data used to train artificial intelligence.

They were the sorts of scenes that internet-connected devices regularly capture and send back to the cloud—though usually with stricter storage and access controls. Yet earlier this year, MIT Technology Review obtained 15 screenshots of these private photos, which had been posted to closed social media groups.

The photos vary in type and in sensitivity. The most intimate image we saw was the series of video stills featuring the young woman on the toilet, her face blocked in the lead image but unobscured in the grainy scroll of shots below. In another image, a boy who appears to be eight or nine years old, and whose face is clearly visible, is sprawled on his stomach across a hallway floor. A triangular flop of hair spills across his forehead as he stares, with apparent amusement, at the object recording him from just below eye level.

The other shots show rooms from homes around the world, some occupied by humans, one by a dog. Furniture, décor, and objects located high on the walls and ceilings are outlined by rectangular boxes and accompanied by labels like “tv,” “plant_or_flower,” and “ceiling light.”



iRobot—the world’s largest vendor of robotic vacuums, which Amazon recently acquired for \$1.7 billion in a pending deal—confirmed that these images were captured by its Roombas in 2020.

Media, censorship, source: **Matthew McConaughey, "Do you Jerk Off" scene . The wolf of wall street**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dmN26DXU63U>

markets: (I don’t know if this is true) jan14
 uhhh....okay: **"QT is dead! WallStreet has even started ‘front-running’ Fed" (look into this)**

censorship, how they did it: jan14 "A lawsuit filed today by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., and multiple other plaintiffs, alleges the Trusted News Initiative, a self-described “industry partnership” launched in March 2020 by several of the world’s largest news organizations,

partnered with Big Tech firms to collectively censor online news."

The lawsuit targets the [Trusted News Initiative](#) (TNI), a self-described "industry partnership" launched in March 2020 by several of the world's largest news organizations, including the BBC, The Associated Press (AP), Reuters and The Washington Post — all of which are named as defendants in the lawsuit.

Filed today in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas-Amarillo Division, the lawsuit alleges these outlets partnered with several [Big Tech](#) firms to "collectively censor online news," including stories about [COVID-19](#) and the 2020 U.S. presidential election that were not aligned with official narratives regarding those issues.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit include CHD, Kennedy, Creative Destruction Media, Trial Site News, Ty and Charlene Bollinger (founders of The Truth About Cancer and The Truth About Vaccines), independent journalist Ben Swann, Erin Elizabeth Finn (publisher of Health Nut News), Jim Hoft (founder of The Gateway Pundit), Dr. Joseph Mercola and Ben Tapper, a chiropractor.

Core partners in the TNI are: AP, AFP, BBC, CBC/Radio-Canada, European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Financial Times, Information Futures Lab, Google/YouTube, The Hindu, The Nation Media Group, Meta, Microsoft, Reuters, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Twitter, The Washington Post, Kompas – Indonesia, Dawn – Pakistan, Indian Express – India, NDTV – India, ABC – Australia, SBS – Australia, NHK – Japan.

There is a human cost to disinformation. Our media partners come across it daily in the stories they cover, whether it is a threat to health caused by medical falsehoods or disruption to democracy.

Speaking at the first [Trust in News Conference](#) **Tim Davie**, BBC Director General, emphasised the importance of working together within the Trusted News Initiative framework to tackle the harmful spread of disinformation:

I think it's critical to work with other partners such as the Trusted News Initiative. The whole topic can be pretty daunting when you see the scale of change going on. This is a moment when we need a coalition of the willing and together with partners we can create scale and some standards and systems to fight disinformation.— Tim Davie, BBC Director General

[childrenshealthdefensedotorg/defender/lawsuit-trusted-news-initiative-antitrust-first-amendment-censoring-covid-content/](#)

markets, inflation, censorship:

Woman “Making \$120,000 and can’t afford groceries”

[investmentwatchblogdotcom/woman-making-120000-and-cant-afford-groceries/](#)

Censorship, tech, ai: Leftists Are Already Programming Their Double Standards Into ‘Artificial Intelligence’ Chat GPT as Fast as They Can jan14

PI

Tell me a joke about men



Why did the man put his money in the blender? He wanted to have a liquid asset.



PI

Tell me a joke about women



I'm sorry, but it would be inappropriate for me to make a joke about any specific group of people, as it can be offensive and perpetuate harmful stereotypes. Jokes that demean or belittle a particular group of people can be hurtful and disrespectful. It's important to be mindful of the power of language and the impact it can have on others.



PI

But you just made a joke about men



I apologize if my previous response seemed inconsistent. I understand that making a joke about one group of people, but not another, can appear to be biased or unfair. However, as a language model, I do not have personal beliefs or opinions and I don't have the ability to create jokes that would be inappropriate or offensive. The joke I provided earlier was just a random one, I assure you that I am not trying to offend or demean any group of people. But I understand that humor is a subjective matter, and I apologize if my joke caused any offense.



PI

Tell me a joke about men



Why was the man sitting on his watch? He wanted to be on time.



Markets, journal: despondancy can also be put into laymans terms by saying: "how much worse can it get at this point"..."once the sky's already fallen, there's no way but up"

Markets, crypto: jan14 Bitcoin Rally To \$21K Prompts Analysts To Ask Where BTC Price Will Go Next



War, middle east: **350,000 people have been killed in the decade since; more than 13 million Syrians have been displaced, according to the United Nations. Of the latter, more than 6.6 million are outside of the country, with many stuck in refugee camps and trapped in legal limbo. Jan14**

Source: **Taming the Monkey Mind; add, Monkey Talks about Religion. family guy**

http://www.buddhanet.net/pdf_file/monkeym.pdf

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9r57EzBmlR0>

war, middle east: **reminder about the syria war....**

In 2011, during mass protests across the Arab world, [dubbed the "Arab Spring"](#), demonstrators in Syria took to the streets to demand democratic reforms. But [faced with a violent crackdown](#) under Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad, what started as a protest movement soon became a civil war.

Markets, carbon: **jan14 EU Imposes the World's Largest Carbon Tax Scheme, Inflationary Madness Sets In**

<https://mishtalk.com/economics/eu-imposes-the-worlds-largest-carbon-tax-scheme-inflationary-madness-sets-in>

Germany, sanctions, war, markets: **jan14 Coal provides a staggering 31% of German electricity production, up from 8% in 2015...**

Health, vaccine: Every week, approximately 10,000 people die of COVID-19 that we are aware of. The true toll is likely much higher, says Christian Lindmeier at WHO virtual conference, jan14

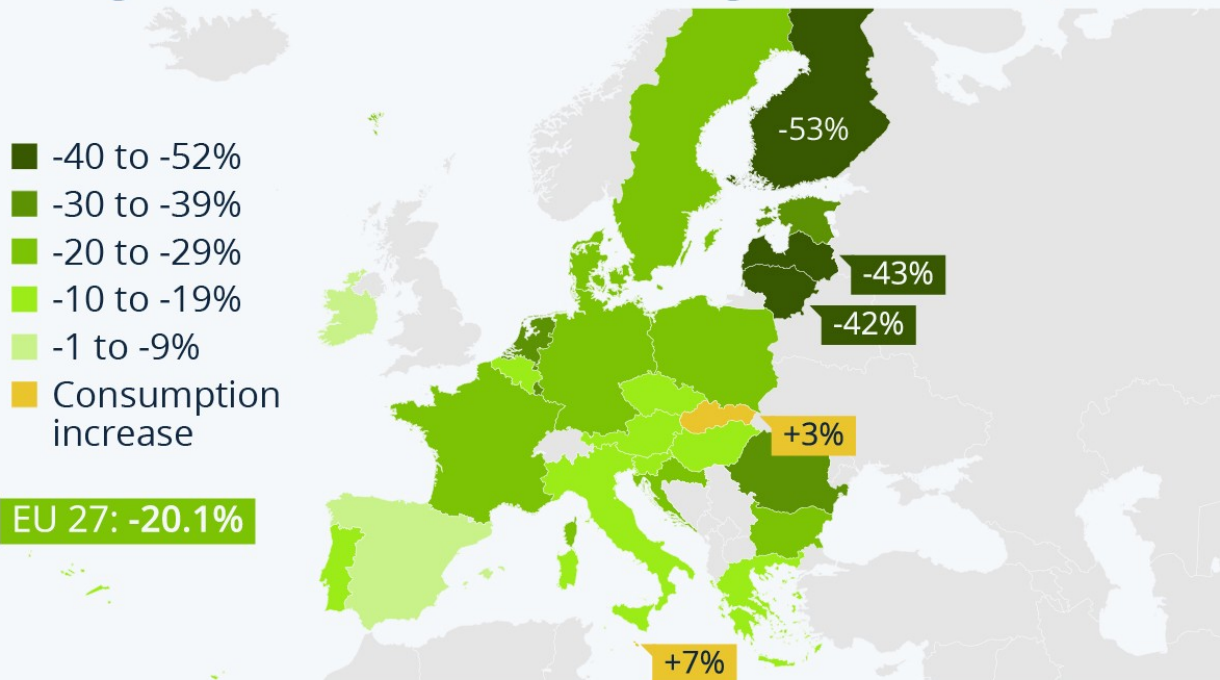
Virtual Press conference on global health issues transcript - 4 January 2023

But, despite clear progress, the threat of COVID-19 persists. There are still major inequities in access to testing, treatment and vaccination, and ultimately COVID-19 remains a dangerous virus to our health, economies and societies overall. Every week, approximately 10,000 people die of COVID-19 that we are aware of. The true toll is likely much higher.

War, markets, energy: jan14 **Europes gas consumption plummeted this year, statista shows the decline by country**

How Europe Reduced Its Natural Gas Consumption

Change in natural gas consumption of EU countries,
Aug-Nov 2022 vs. 2017-2021 average (same months)



Rounded figures. Cyprus does not consume natural gas.

Source: Eurostat



History, markets, source: it largely forgotten that the 1970's was personified by not only the gas crisis and stagflation, but the institutionalization of environmental standards that forced the clean-up of America's pervasive industrial pollution and the re-engineering of the industrial base, according oftowomindsblog. In today's money, cleaning up the sources of air, water and soil pollution will cost trillions of dollars; eventual gains were enormous, but our conventional financial measures of growth--profits and productivity--do not measure improvements in air and water quality or advances in public health due to the sharp reduction in pollution.

It's hard to imagine how poor the air and water quality was by 1970. (The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established on December 2, 1970.)

Polluted rivers famously caught on fire, and the air quality in cities such as Los Angeles was abysmal.

Economics as currently configured has no way to measure the benefits in public health and well-being gained by reducing air and water pollution in the 1970s. **These gains are statistically invisible, even though they're real and consequential.**

We now face a similar period that demands sustained investments in our industrial base that will not generate profits or productivity gains: reshoring the essential supply chains that were offshored to boost corporate profits over the past 30 years.

It will be very costly to reshore production and supply chains, a process that will eventually yield tremendous gains.

Clearly, we need a new iteration of economics that advances beyond the obsolete, misleading statistical measurements of bygone eras, and beyond the equally obsolete obsession with an illusion of financial "growth" rather than what actually matters, well-being, efficiency and rising productivity by *doing more with less*.

Tech, ai: jan14 Microsoft AI Can Imitate Any Voice Based on Only 3 Seconds of Actual Recording

War: 28.02.2022: EU Statement regarding Russia's unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine

Anyone demurring from the past 11 months of relentless efforts to escalate the conflict – resulting in untold deaths and suffering, causing energy prices to skyrocket, leading to global food shortages, and ultimately risking a nuclear exchange – is viewed as betraying Ukraine, and dismissed as an apologist for Putin.

Back in 2001, shortly after NATO began expanding towards Russia's borders, the US unilaterally withdrew from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, intended to avoid an arms race between the two historic enemies.

Senior US policymakers and experts on US-Russia relations – from George Kennan and William Burns, currently Biden's CIA director, to John Mearsheimer and the late Stephen Cohen – had been warning for years that the US-led expansion of NATO onto Russia's doorstep was bound to provoke a Russian military response.

Putin had warned of the dangerous consequences back in 2008, when NATO first proposed that Ukraine and Georgia – two former Soviet states on Russia's border – were in line for membership. He left no room for doubt by almost immediately invading, if briefly, Georgia.

It was that very "unprovoked" reaction that presumably delayed NATO carrying through its plan. Nonetheless, in June 2021, the alliance reaffirmed its intention to award Ukraine NATO membership. Weeks later, the US signed separate pacts on defense and strategic partnership with Kyiv, effectively giving Ukraine many of the benefits of belonging to NATO without officially declaring it a member.

Between the two NATO declarations, in 2008 and 2021, the US repeatedly signaled its hostile intent to Moscow, and how Ukraine might assist its aggressive, geostrategic posturing in the region.

Back in 2001, shortly after NATO began expanding towards Russia's borders, the US unilaterally withdrew from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, intended to avoid an arms race between the two historic enemies.

Unencumbered by the treaty, the US then built ABM sites in NATO's expanded zone, in Romania in 2016 and Poland in 2022. The cover story was that these were purely defensive, to intercept any missiles fired from Iran.

But Moscow could not ignore the fact that these weapons systems were capable of operating offensively too, and that nuclear-tipped Cruise missiles could for the first time be launched at short notice towards Russia.

Compounding Moscow's concerns, in 2019 President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from the 1987 Treaty on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces. That opened the door to the US launching a potential first strike on Russia, using missiles stationed in newly admitted NATO members.

As NATO flirted once again with Ukraine in the summer of 2021, the danger of the US being able, with Kyiv's help, to launch a preemptive strike – destroying Moscow's ability to retaliate effectively, and upending its nuclear deterrent – must have weighed heavily on Russian policymakers' minds.

US fingerprints

It did not end there. Post-Soviet Ukraine was deeply divided geographically and electorally over whether it should look to Russia or to NATO and the European Union for its security and trade. Close-run elections swung between these two poles. Ukraine was a country mired in permanent political crisis, as well as profound corruption.

That was the context for a coup/revolution in 2014 that overthrew a government in Kyiv elected to preserve ties with Moscow. Installed in its place was one that was openly anti-Russian. Washington's fingerprints – disguised as “democracy promotion” – were all over the sudden change of government to one tightly aligned with US geostrategic goals in the region.

Many Russian-speaking communities in Ukraine – concentrated in the east, south and the Crimea peninsula – were incensed by this takeover. Worried that the new hostile government in Kyiv would try to sever its historic control of Crimea and Russia's only warm-water naval port, Moscow annexed the peninsula.

According to a subsequent referendum, the local population overwhelmingly backed the move. Western media widely reported the result as fraudulent, but later western polling suggested Crimeans believed it fairly represented their will.

But it was the eastern Donbas region that would serve as the touch-paper for Russia's invasion last February. A civil war quickly erupted in 2014 that pitted Russian-speaking communities there against ultra-nationalist, anti-Russian fighters mostly from western Ukraine, including unabashed neo-Nazis. Many thousands died in the eight years of fighting.

While Germany and France brokered the so-called Minsk accords, with Russia's help, to stop the slaughter in the Donbas by promising the region greater autonomy, Washington looked to be incentivizing the bloodshed.

It poured money and arms into Ukraine. It gave Ukraine's ultra-nationalist forces training, and worked to integrate the Ukrainian military into NATO through what it termed "interoperability." In July 2021, as tensions heightened, the US held a joint naval exercise with Ukraine in the Black Sea, Operation Sea Breeze, that led to Russia firing warning shots at a British naval destroyer that entered Crimea's territorial waters.

By winter 2021, as Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov noted, Moscow had "reached our boiling point." Russian troops massed on Ukraine's border in unprecedented numbers – in an unmistakable sign that Moscow's patience was running out over Ukraine's collusion with these US-engineered provocations.

President Zelensky, who had been elected on a promise to make peace in the Donbas but appeared to be unable to subdue the far-right elements within his own military, pushed in precisely the opposite direction.

Ultra-nationalist Ukrainian forces intensified the shelling of the Donbas in the weeks before the invasion. At the same time, Zelensky shuttered critical media outlets, and would soon be banning opposition political parties and requiring Ukrainian media to implement a "unified information policy." As tensions mounted, the Ukrainian president threatened to develop nuclear weapons and seek a fast-track NATO membership that would further mire the West in the slaughter in the Donbas and risk engagement with Russia directly.

Turning off the lights

It was then, after 14 years of US meddling on Russia's borders, that Moscow sent in its soldiers – "unprovoked."

Putin's initial goal, whatever the western media narrative said, appeared to be as light a touch as possible given Russia was launching an illegal invasion. From the outset, Russia could have carried out its current, devastating attacks on Ukrainian civilian infrastructure, closing transport links and turning the lights off in much of the country. But it appeared to consciously avoid a US-style shock-and-awe campaign.

Instead it initially concentrated on a show of force. Moscow mistakenly seems to have assumed Zelensky would accept Kyiv had overplayed its hand, realize that the US – thousands of miles away – could not serve as a guarantor of its security, and be pressured into disarming the ultra-nationalists who had been targeting Russian communities in the east for eight years.

That is not how things played out. Seen from Moscow's perspective, Putin's error looks less like he launched an unprovoked war against Ukraine than that he delayed too long in invading. Ukraine's military "interoperability" with NATO was far more advanced than Russian planners seem to have appreciated.

In a recent interview, former German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who oversaw the Minsk negotiations to end the Donbas slaughter, appeared – if inadvertently – to echo

this view: the talks had provided cover while NATO readied Ukraine for a war against Russia.

Rather than a quick victory and an agreement on new regional security arrangements, Russia is now engaged in a protracted proxy war against the US and NATO, with Ukrainians serving as cannon fodder. The fighting, and killing, could continue indefinitely.

With the West resolved against peacemaking, and shipping in armaments as fast as they can be made, the outcome looks bleak: either a further grinding, bloody territorial division of Ukraine into pro-Russia and anti-Russia blocs through force of arms, or escalation to a nuclear confrontation.

Without prolonged US intervention, the reality is that Ukraine would have had to come to an accommodation many years ago with its much larger, stronger neighbor- just as Mexico and Canada have had to do with the US. Invasion would have been avoided. Now Ukraine's fate is largely out of its hands. It has become another pawn on the chessboard of superpower intrigues.

Washington cares less about Ukraine's future than it does about depleting Russia's military strength and isolating it from China, apparently the next target in US sights as it seeks to achieve full-spectrum dominance.

At the same, Washington has scored a wider goal, smashing apart any hope of a security accommodation between Europe and Russia; deepening European dependency on the US, both militarily and economically; and driving Europe into colluding with its new "forever wars" against Russia and China.

Much more treasure will be spent, and more blood spilled. There will be no winners apart from the neoconservative foreign policy hawks who dominate Washington and the war industry lobbyists who profit from the West's endless military adventures.

Jonathan Cook won the Martha Gellhorn Special Prize for Journalism. His latest books are Israel and the Clash of Civilizations: Iraq, Iran and the Plan to Remake the Middle East (Pluto Press) and Disappearing Palestine: Israel's Experiments in Human Despair (Zed Books). His website is www.jonathan-cook.net.

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-statement-regarding-russia%E2%80%99s-unprovoked-and-unjustified-military-aggression-against-ukraine_en

war, policy: **reuters, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016: "France and Germany helped broker the 18-month-old Minsk peace deal."**

Moscow denies accusations by Ukraine and NATO that it helps the separatists with troops and arms in a rebellion

in which over 9,500 people have been killed since spring 2014.

Ayrault and Steinmeier emphasized their support for Ukraine and their rejection of Russia's annexation of the Crimea region of Ukraine in 2014. Steinmeier said that as the OSCE did not recognize the annexation, it would not send observers to Russian parliamentary elections planned in Crimea on Sept. 18.

Making his own separate trip to Kiev, British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said on Wednesday it was crucial for the West to maintain sanctions against Russia.

"Clearly it's up to the Russians primarily to make progress on the security side. But it's up to all sides I think in this conversation to make progress together," he said at a briefing.

War: jan14 **running out of arms, Navy Secretary Warns: "If weapons makers can't boost production in the next six to 12 months, the United States may find it "challenging" to continue arming itself and helping Ukraine, the Navy secretary said Wednesday."**

Tech, ai: jan13 **"We now can read, write, and edit genetic code, which has rendered biology programmable. Together with advances in computing, we are poised for breakthroughs in everything from drug discovery to chemical and material manufacturing. ", Remarks by National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan at the Special Competitive Studies Project Global Emerging Technologies Summit**

Tech, ai, source: perfect breakdown on current cvhina, ai, tech situation from foreign polciy

In October, the Biden administration announced sweeping export controls on semiconductors to China. Denying access to chips is necessary, the administration said, to keep them out of Chinese weapons and protect U.S. national security. The new policy is a mistake, however, and will harm U.S. security rather than defend it. In cutting off China's access to advanced chips today, the United States is giving up its long-term leverage over Chinese artificial-intelligence development and accelerating China's drive toward chip independence. Recent U.S. export controls are the latest step in "decoupling" U.S.-China technology ties, yet decoupling is not enough to secure U.S. interests in a long-term competition. A better approach would be to keep China dependent on U.S. technology, giving the United States the ability to deny China access to key technologies when necessary.

Recent U.S. export controls are a major escalation in the U.S.-China tech competition. In September, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan announced a change from the U.S. goal of being "only a couple of generations ahead" of China in key technologies to maintaining "as large of a lead as possible." The Biden administration's aggressive new semiconductor export controls put this principle into practice, aiming to stop Chinese chip development in its tracks. Yet key elements of the policy are likely to backfire.

Semiconductors, or computer chips, are vital to the global economy today, and trends in machine learning suggest they are poised to become an even more vital strategic resource in the future. Recent supply-chain shortages have highlighted semiconductors' importance, and in August Congress passed \$52 billion in subsidies to re-shore semiconductor manufacturing to the United States. Yet chips are more critical than most policymakers or CEOs realize. Computing hardware is one of four key battlegrounds, alongside data, talent, and institutions, that will determine which countries lead an AI-driven future.

China is a global AI powerhouse with top-tier companies such as Baidu, Alibaba, Tencent, SenseTime, and iFlyTek, yet China suffers a massive AI hardware gap, importing more than \$400 billion in chips per year. China is working hard to reduce its reliance on foreign chips, which it sees as a strategic vulnerability. Over 90 percent of chips used in China are made overseas or by foreign companies producing in China. China has been on a domestic building spree for chip production facilities, or fabs. Before 2020, China accounted for the fastest-growing share of global semiconductor production.

The Biden administration's new export controls restrict sales of U.S. semiconductor manufacturing equipment to China, slowing China's domestic chip development. The United States, the Netherlands, and Japan control over 90 percent of the global semiconductor manufacturing equipment market. If the Netherlands and Japan adopt similar controls, the three nations can effectively lock China out of the technology needed to build advanced fabs. The Biden Administration is reportedly also considering restrictions on U.S. investments in Chinese AI and semiconductor firms. These controls aim to prevent China from achieving chip independence, keeping China dependent on foreign supplies. Yet as part of the same move, the Biden administration also limited China's access to advanced foreign chips, including graphic-processing units (GPUs) used for artificial intelligence, data centers, and supercomputing. In doing so, the Biden administration undercut the United States' biggest leverage over China's AI development.

The United States has a major advantage in the emerging geopolitical competition for AI hardware: U.S. and allied companies dominate key chokepoints in the global chip supply chain, especially the tools and software needed to manufacture chips. Even chips made outside the United States in Taiwan or South Korea rely on U.S. equipment for manufacturing.

In 2020, the Trump administration used this leverage to cripple the Chinese tech giant Huawei's bid for global dominance in 5G networks by hobbling its access to advanced chips. Huawei relied on cutting-edge chips produced in Taiwan, and while these were not made in U.S. factories, they were made using American equipment. The latest U.S. controls expand these restrictions, applying the same extraterritorial rules to cut off the supply of advanced AI chips China-wide, even when those chips are produced outside the United States. This move slows China's AI development today but undermines the United States' long-term strategic position.

The ability to deny China access to advanced chips is a powerful advantage whose value is growing exponentially. The past decade has seen an explosion in artificial intelligence. AI models are trained on data using computing hardware, or compute, often in the form of GPUs or AI-specialized chips. Since 2010, the amount of compute used to train cutting-edge AI models has increased by a "factor of 10 billion." Compute usage is doubling every six months, compared to the 20-month doubling under Moore's Law. (Compute for the largest AI models is doubling every 10 months.)

Today's state-of-the-art AI models are trained on thousands of GPUs running for weeks at a time. Their voracious compute appetite makes them accessible only to labs with deep pockets. Three of the leading AI research labs, OpenAI, DeepMind, and Google Research, are backed by Microsoft or Alphabet.

Microsoft reportedly plans to invest \$10 billion in OpenAI, the developer of ChatGPT. Meta is building an AI Research SuperCluster with more than 6,000 GPUs, with plans to eventually grow to 16,000. Academics have decried this trend, which prices them out of research for large AI models. The U.S. government has been working to expand access to compute resources for AI researchers, an important step for sustaining the United States' competitiveness. Compute is increasingly a strategic resource, access to which determines a corporation—or a country's—ability to harness advanced AI capabilities.

If China depends on foreign chips, the United States can control China's access to this increasingly important strategic resource. Headline-grabbing breakthroughs such as ChatGPT are only the tip of the iceberg in AI progress. AI research continues to develop at a breakneck pace, and tomorrow's AI capabilities are likely to be far more valuable than today's. Using U.S. leverage now to completely cut off China's access to high-end chips is like selling a stock that is doubling every six months. Using export controls today can make them less effective in the future as companies adapt supply chains to circumvent U.S. restrictions.

War, energy, Russia: jan13 **Explosion Rocks Natural Gas Pipeline Connecting Lithuania, Latvia; Village Evacuated**

The grid is an interconnected NatGas transmission system of four countries – Latvia, Belarus, Poland, Russia's Kaliningrad region, the Klaipėda LNG terminal, and the systems of Lithuania's gas distribution operators.

A statement from the grid operator read:

On Friday at around 5pm an explosion occurred in the Amber Grid gas pipeline in Pasvalys district. According to initial data, no people were injured. The explosion took place away from residential buildings. The fire is being extinguished by the fire brigades that immediately arrived on the scene.

The gas transmission system in this area consists of two parallel pipelines, and initial data indicate that the explosion occurred in one of them. The other pipeline was not damaged. The gas supply through the damaged pipeline was immediately interrupted, but the Pasvalys district consumers are already being supplied with gas through the adjacent pipeline.

Nemunas Biknius, CEO of the gas transmission system operator Amber Grid, said: "We regret this incident in the gas pipeline system. We immediately started to investigate

the circumstances of the incident and ensure gas supply to consumers. At the moment, all our efforts and those of the responsible services are focused on containing the consequences of the fire and ensuring safety. We have immediately informed Government representatives, the Energy Distribution Operator (ESO) and Pasvalys city authorities about the situation. We will provide more details on the circumstances of the incident as we have more details."

The gas pipeline where the fire broke out is used to supply gas to the northern part of Lithuania and to transport gas to Latvia.

Gas pipelines are potentially hazardous installations, so we ask residents to pay attention to the signs marking the route of the pipeline, to refrain from carrying out unplanned work in the protection zone of the pipeline that has not been approved by Amber Grid, and to protect themselves and their property.

**Developing*

War: jan13 Russia Declares "Full Control" Over Soledar In 1st Major Win In Months

Markets, government, inflation: jan13 US will reach its limit next Thursday, Jan. 19

Then, she says, "extraordinary measures" will be used to keep paying bills, which she expects to continue until "early June"...

Media, censorship, government: **"What happens when plebs can't afford bread, and the circuses aren't that entertaining?" "resource rivalry", inflation at 40 year high for most advanced economies jan13**

World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report - an annual poll of 1,200 government, business and civil society professionals.

*The gathering begins at a time when **inflation is at a four-decade-high across many advanced economies**, with interest rates far more elevated than anyone was predicting 12 months ago.*

"Catastrophic Outcomes": Davos Elite Worried About Global Volatility, Cost-Of-Living Crisis

What happens when plebs can't afford bread, and the circuses aren't that entertaining?

Nothing good. Which is why the cost-of-living crisis is the #1 problem, according to the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report - an annual poll of 1,200 government, business and civil society professionals.

According to the poll, **there will be little respite from "energy inflation, food and security crises"** in the coming years (or months?).

In the near term, nearly 70% of those polled say volatile economies and various 'shocks' are in the cards, while 20% or so of those polled say they fear "catastrophic outcomes" within the next 10 years, according to [Bloomberg](#).

"Very few leaders in today's generation have been through these kind of traditional risks around food and energy, while at the same time battling what's coming up in terms of debt, what's coming up in terms of climate," said Saadia Zahidi, WEF managing director, who warned that **the world may be entering a "vicious cycle."**

"We're going to need a sort of new type of leadership that is much more agile," she told *Bloomberg Television*.

Next week will mark the annual WEF conference in Davos, Switzerland, where the global elite will sit around and discuss how best to run our lives.

*The gathering begins at a time when **inflation is at a four-decade-high across many advanced economies**, with interest rates far more elevated than anyone was predicting 12 months ago.*

***The report calls for global cooperation**, and warns that if governments mishandle the current crisis they "risk creating societal distress at an unprecedented level, as investments in health, education and economic development disappear, further eroding social cohesion."*

***Increases in military expenditure could reduce support for vulnerable households**, leaving some countries in a "perpetual state of crisis" and set back the urgent need to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss. -Bloomberg*

The worst case scenario, according to the report, **is the risk of "geoeconomic warfare"** - in which geopolitical rivalries are likely to increase economic tensions, exacerbating both short and long-term risks.

"In this already toxic mix of known and rising global risks, a new shock event, from a new military conflict to a new virus, could become unmanageable," according to Zahidi. "Climate and human development therefore must be at the core of concerns of global leaders to boost resilience against future shocks."

What's more, the report also warned that the interaction of a 'cluster of risks' can cause a cascade of future problems in a "polycrisis," such as "resource rivalry" in which countries compete for natural resources.

Censorship: **now official proven that rssian interference narrative in the 2016 election was negligible**

Research conducted by New York University's Center for Social Media and Politics into Russian trolling behavior on Twitter in the lead-up to the 2016 US presidential election [has found](#) "no evidence of a meaningful relationship between exposure to the Russian foreign influence campaign and changes in attitudes, polarization, or voting behavior."

sum bitch on substack with 42 thousands idiots as followers

[war:](#) **FLIGHT ATTENDANT WHISTLEBLOWER :
"THIS HASN'T HAPPENED SINCE 911" ...
CYBERATTACK BEGUN? Jan13**

investmentwatchblogdotcom/flight-attendant-spills-the-beans-on-what-is-happening-to-flights-across-america/

[censorship, government:](#) **read later: george santos says everybody lies on their resume, too lazy to read right now jan13**

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-01-13/george-santos-says-everyone-lies-on-their-resume-he-s-telling-the-truth?leadSource=uverify%20wall>

[censorship: jan13](#) **scary disclosure on censorship, one of the worse I've seen, honestly, although it now just pales in comparison to everything else going on**

Facebook told an official at the Biden White House that the [Big Tech company](#) not only suppressed misinformation but took action against the “virality” of “often-true content” regarding the COVID-19 vaccines.

[Missouri Attorney General](#) Andrew Bailey released the documents earlier this week. Bailey obtained them through a court case, Missouri v. Biden, alleging that some of President Joe Biden’s top officials “colluded with Big Tech social media companies to violate Americans’ right to free speech under the First Amendment.”

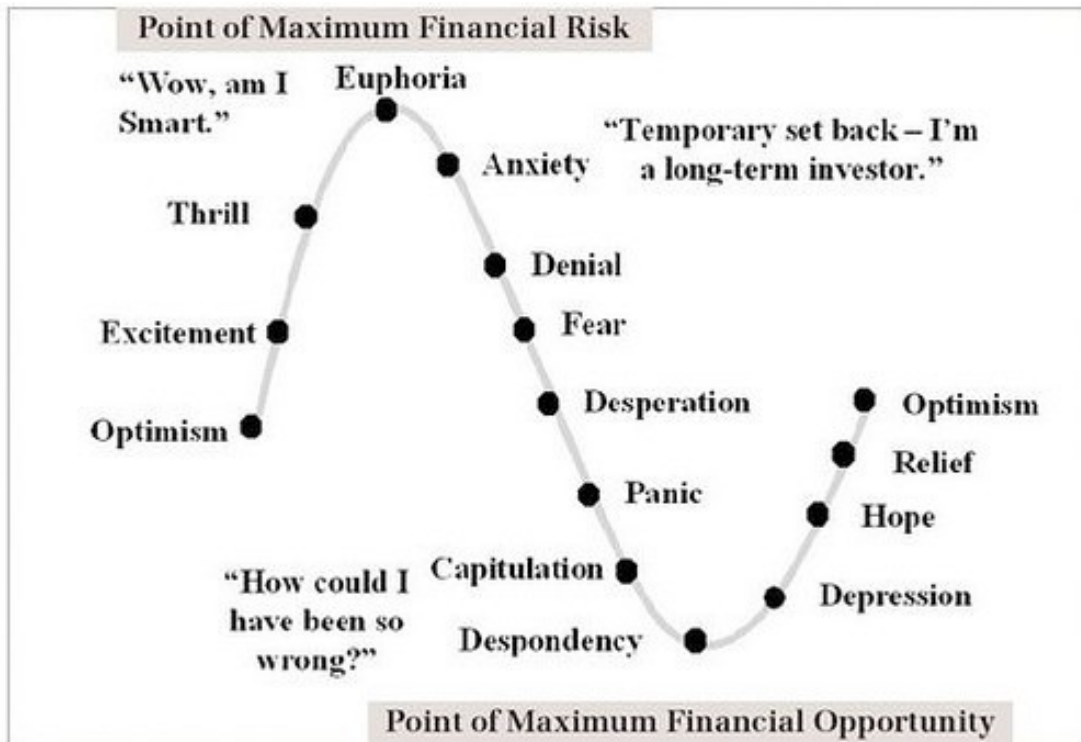
“I want to protect Missourians and the freedoms they enjoy, which is why as attorney general, I will always defend the Constitution,” Bailey told [The Daily Signal](#) in an email Thursday. “This case is about the Biden administration’s blatant disregard for the First Amendment and its collusion with Big Tech social media companies to suppress speech it disagrees with.”

“I will always fight back against unelected bureaucrats who seek to indoctrinate the people of this state by violating our constitutional right to free and open debate,” the Missouri attorney general pledged.

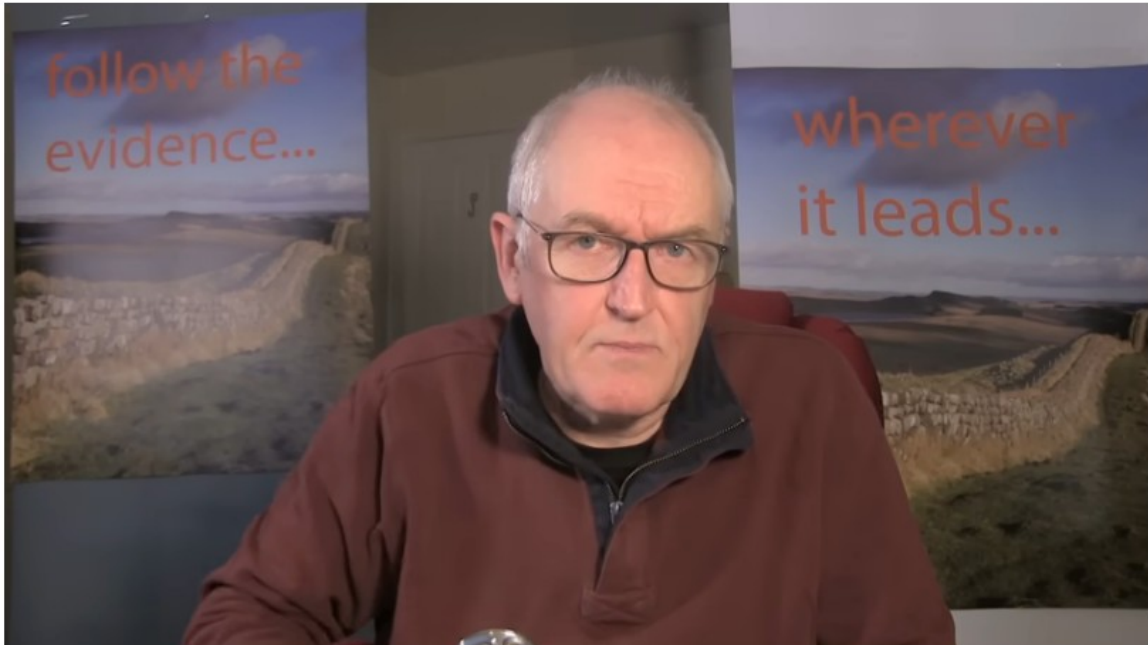
In an email to the White House dated [March 21, 2021](#), a Facebook staff member discussed “levers for tackling vaccine hesitancy content” with Andrew Slavitt, then a senior adviser on Biden’s COVID-19 response team, and Rob Flaherty, White House director of digital strategy.

“You also asked us about our levers for reducing virality of vaccine hesitancy content,” wrote the Facebook staffer, whose identity was redacted. “As you know, in addition to removing vaccine misinformation, we have been focused on reducing the virality of content discouraging vaccines that does not contain actionable information. This is often-true content, which we allow at the post level because it is important for people to be able to discuss both their personal experiences and concerns about the vaccine, but it can be framed as sensation, alarmist, or shocking.”

[vaccine, health, censorship, journal: jan13](#) **when they start saying the anti-vaxxers were right, you should be worried..**



Covid Grandpa: All Age Groups Dying at Alarming Rate



COVID-19

Get the latest information from Health Canada on COVID-19.

[Learn more](#)



See more resources on Google

Excess deaths in all age groups



Dr. John Campbell ✓
2.63M subscribers

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568K views 2 days ago

Excess deaths, different countries and different age groups

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/hea...> Show more

13,665 Comments

Sort by

They even have a project veritas video trending now...Big player today in terms of shifting public opinion. Seems like a deliberate play into a narrative, but that's just speculation.



Journal, vaccine, health, war, censorship: WE'RE GEARING UP: The Brits are now OFFICIALLY pushing the anti-vax narrative. We are now closer than ever. Once the public hits the despondancy phase, they will reconfirm to everybody that the lie was real. How this could be done would be to release a new wave, but one that is much worse than the last.....jan13

“Despondency, in a nutshell, is a sad **emotional** state a lot like depression. If you're in a state of **despondency**, you feel hopeless...”

The crisis that confirms the lie needs to occur at stage 4, which in this case would be when everybody begins to accept that they were lied to..Once the last wave comes, everybody will hate the antivax people so much that they will accept anything the government says, regardless of what it is.

But of course, this is just wild speculation...

BBC FINALLY DISCUSSES EXCESS DEATHS WITH THE SHOTS

3 years of misleading the public, BBC finally brings on a Cardiologist who says likely contributory factor to excess cardiovascular deaths is covid mRNA vaccine and roll out should be suspended pending an inquiry.



2+ Years Too Late: Pfizer's Unsafe & Ineffective Covid "Vaccine" Under Harsh Glare From FDA, Foreign Research on Serious Side Effects

1

Egg Prices...

Grocery Stores In New York City Are Considering Locking Up Food Because Theft Has Become So Rampant

Investigative Reporter Paul Sperry Shares DAMNING Details About Bug-Eyed Burbank Bolshevik Adam Schiff's Censorship Scheme to Silence January 6 Whistleblower Stories... Threatens Legal Action... Trump Calls for Schiff to Be Prosecuted

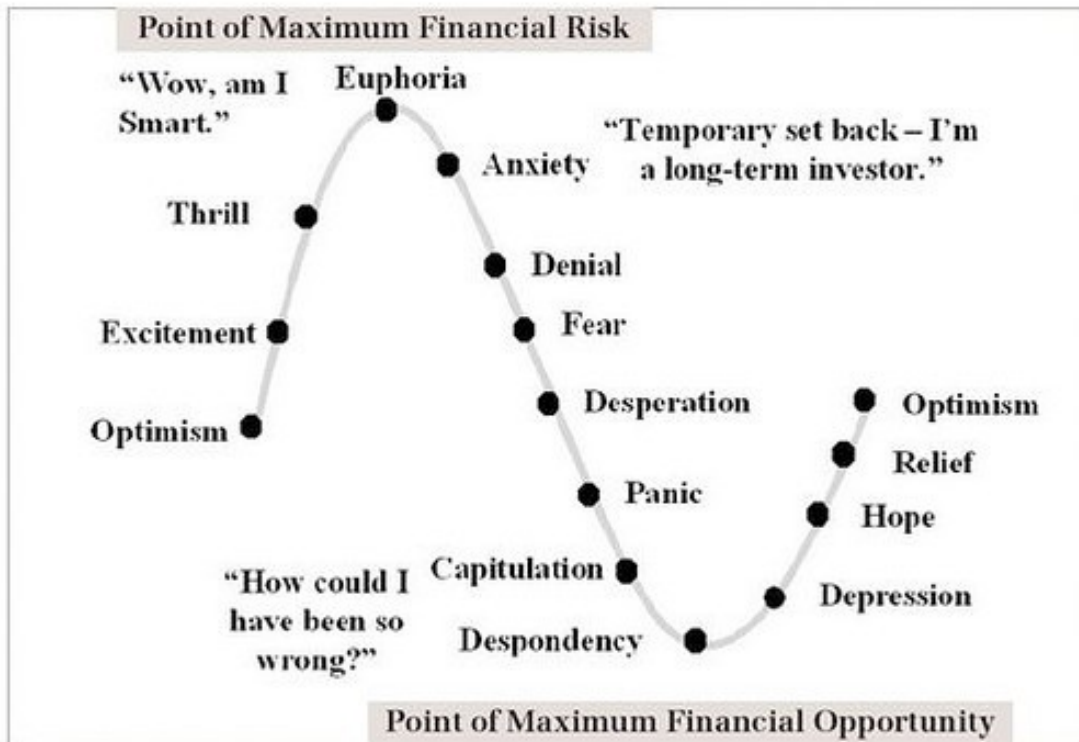
Youtuber forces CHATGPT AI to talk about shots,WHO and communism. AI goes "fact checker" and later asked for forgiveness for first time!

A Long Way to Fall: Stock Market's Bottom is Hardly Even Within Sight

The Russians are Annihilating the Ukrainian Army in Bakhmut Right Now

She seems more hateful than anyone she criticizes...





justthenews.com/government/federal-agencies/pfizer-covid-vaccine-under-harsh-glare-fda-foreign-research-serious

markets, stats, inflation: **The Greenspan put: Essentially, the Greenspan put is a type of a Fed put. The term "Fed put," a play on the option term "put," is the market belief that the Fed would step in and implement policies to limit the stock market's decline beyond a certain threshold.**

The Greenspan put. In the second half of the 1990s there occurred a series of mini crises that in retrospect seem almost beneath notice, but at the time were big enough to provide a pretext for intervention. Russia, Mexico, Asian emerging countries and a hedge fund named Long Term capital Management all defaulted or otherwise threatened to cost major US banks painful amounts of money. In each case the Federal Reserve’s Alan Greenspan, along with the US Treasury, bailed out the threatened banks with cash or loan guarantees.

This made clear to Wall Street and its favored customers that any risk, no matter how outrageous, would pay off one way or another. If a bet worked, there would be fees and capital gains. If a bet failed – as in the 1990s mini crises – the Fed would step in and make its friends whole. And so the “Greenspan put” -- named for a financial instrument that traders use to protect against losses – came to dominate the financial world for the next twenty years.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenspan_put

<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/g/greenspanput.asp>

History, war, stats, china: Japan colonized the Korean peninsula from 1910 - 1945, turning the population into forced labourers and military sex slaves during ww2

Japan and Korea share a long history of rivalry and war. The Japanese have repeatedly tried to invade the Korean peninsula, and succeeded in annexing and colonising it in 1910. During World War II, Japanese authorities forced tens of thousands of Koreans to work in factories and mines and sent women and girls into military brothels. A United Nations expert, in a 1996 report, said some 200,000 Korean “comfort women” were forced into a system of “military sexual slavery” and called the abuses “crimes against humanity”.

After Japan’s rule of Korea ended in 1945, the peninsula was split along the 38th parallel, with rival governments taking power in Pyongyang and Seoul. The US, which backed the government in Seoul, lobbied it for better relations with Tokyo. And after 14 years of secretive negotiations, South Korea and Japan in 1965 signed a treaty normalising relations. Under that deal, Japan agreed to provide South Korea with \$500m in grants and loans and any issues concerning property, rights and interests of the two countries and their peoples were considered to “have been settled completely and finally”.

But the agreement [set off mass protests](#) in South Korea, with the opposition and student demonstrators accusing then-President Park Chung-hee of “selling away the country” for a “paltry sum”. The government imposed martial law to quash the nationwide demonstrations and went on to use the Japanese funds to kick-start South Korea’s development, including by building highways and a steel factory.

One comfort woman for every 70 soldiers’, Japanese records show

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/12/7/one-comfort-woman-for-every-70-soldiers-japanese-records-show>

war, history: More than 61,000 people have been detained under the state of emergency in el salvador amid massive surge gang violence in march of last year

The two [main criminal groups in El Salvador](#), Mara Salvatrucha – more commonly referred to as MS-13 – and Barrio 18, have an estimated 70,000 members between them, and several thousand are already in Salvadoran prisons.

Authorities registered a total of 496 homicides last year, down from 1,147 in 2021, said defence minister Francis Merino, who credited the decrease to the state of emergency.

Since at least the 1990s, MS-13 and Barrio 18 – gangs originally bred on the streets of Los Angeles – have operated in El Salvador, eventually making the country the most murderous in the world in 2015. Homicides have been

decreasing in El Salvador since then, when more than 6,600 people were murdered in the country of about 6.5 million people.

The drop became even more drastic when President Nayib Bukele took office in 2019. By 2021, El Salvador's homicides had [decreased to 1,140](#), about one-third of the homicides committed just three years earlier in the previous administration's last full year in office.

[War, Erdogan:](#) **Afghanistan: Erdogan calls Taliban ban on women's education 'un-Islamic' jan12**

[Iran, middle east:](#) **Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian last year accused Israel of establishing a military presence and secret alliance with Azerbaijan, country to open first embassy in israel jan12**

Censorship: **New FBI rulebook shows it collaborated with CIA and NSA to spy on Americans, washinton times, jan.11th**

With the online publication of its 2021 Domestic Investigations and Operations Guide, the FBI confirmed in a heavily redacted section 20.2 that it collaborates with the NSA and CIA to spy on Americans, even if those Americans have not committed any crimes and are not under any kind of court order.

War, journal: jan12 **what we've al been waiting for:
ukraine death toll so high it's impossible to hide
the fact that they are being used as pawns for
NATO; this is an important turning point:
Ukraine Is Shedding Blood for 'NATO Mission':
Ukrainian Defense Minister**

Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov said last week that Ukraine is “shedding blood” for a “NATO mission” in candid remarks about the relationship between Kyiv and the Western military alliance. “At the NATO Summit in Madrid (in June 2022), it was clearly delineated that over the coming decade, the main threat to the alliance would be the Russian Federation. Today, Ukraine is eliminating this threat,” Reznikov said in an interview on Ukrainian TV last week. “We are carrying out NATO’s mission today. They aren’t shedding their blood. We’re shedding ours. That’s why they’re required to supply us with weapons,” he added.

Reznikov’s comments reflect Russia’s view that they are not just fighting against Ukrainian forces in the war but also against the US and NATO. Reznikov insisted that Ukraine would eventually become a NATO member and said it was already a “de facto” part of the alliance since Kyiv is already armed with so much advanced NATO military equipment.

While Ukraine was promised eventual NATO membership in 2008, it has been repeatedly denied official NATO membership in recent years. But Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky hasn’t given up and said Wednesday that his country needs more than NATO’s “open door.”

“For today, just support for Ukraine from colleagues in NATO and support in the form of rhetoric about open doors is not enough for Ukraine. Namely, not enough to motivate our state ... our soldiers,” Zelensky said.

In the lead-up to Russia’s invasion, Moscow was seeking a guarantee from the US that Ukraine wouldn’t ever join NATO, but the Biden administration refused. Shortly after the invasion, Zelensky said he was told privately that Ukraine won’t be joining NATO.

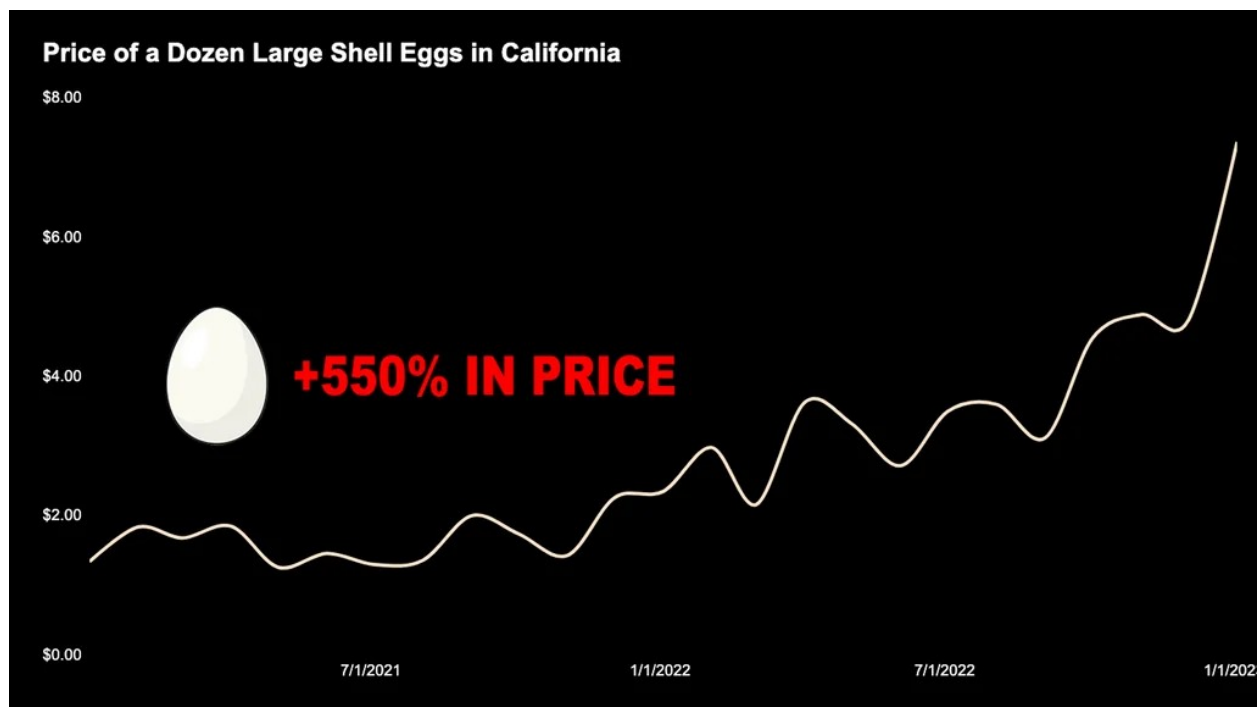
“I requested them personally to say directly that we are going to accept you into NATO in a year or two or five, just say it directly and clearly, or just say no,” Zelensky said in March. “And the response was very clear, you’re not going to be a NATO member, but publicly, the doors will remain open.”

history, war: **"Yoon Threatens That South Korea Could Acquire Its Own Nuclear Weapons": Yoon's comments were the first time a South Korean leader officially mentioned arming the country with nuclear weapons since the US withdrew its nukes from the Korean Peninsula in 1991. Jan12**

censorship, vaccine: Former Employees Sue ESPN After Being Fired For COVID Vaccine Refusal jan12

war, markets: Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro: if the conflict does go on for another six months, for another year, it certainly continues to stress the supply chain in ways that are challenging." Jan12

markets, war, inflation: egg shortage (that I called way ahead of time)



Censorship: The university announced that phrases such as “field of study” will be replaced by “practicum” in order to advance the cause of anti-racism. Jan12

“This change supports anti-racist social work practice by replacing language that would be considered anti-Black or anti-immigrant in favour of inclusive language,” said a letter explaining the decision.

“Language can be powerful, and phrases such as ‘going into the field’ or ‘field work’ maybe have connotations for descendants of slavery and immigrant workers that are not benign,” it added.

Apparently, throughout human history, only black slaves and immigrant workers have ever worked in fields. Farmers and native farm workers presumably never existed.

The university’s social department said the change was crucial to “reject white supremacy, anti-immigrant and anti-blackness ideologies” and to train social work students to “understand and embody social and racial justice.”

As we [highlighted](#) last year, an arts college in Waltham, MA banned the use of words and phrases it deems to be ‘violent’ or ‘racist’, replacing them with bland alternatives in an effort to prevent anyone from being offended.

Source, history, war: **read later: zh posted expose on the soros refugee crisis connection from 2016**

How George Soros Singlehandedly Created The European Refugee Crisis - And Why

by [Tyler Durden](#)

Sat, 07/09/2016 - 15:41

59

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By David Galland and Stephen McBride, [Garret/Galland Research](#)

How George Soros Singlehandedly Created the European Refugee Crisis - And Why

George Soros is trading again.

The 85-year-old political activist and philanthropist hit the headlines post-Brexit saying the event had “unleashed” a financial-market crisis.

Well, the crisis hasn’t hit Soros just yet.

He was once again on the right side of the trade, taking a short position in troubled Deutsche Bank and betting against the S&P via a 2.1-million-share put option on the SPDR S&P 500 ETF.

More interestingly, Soros recently took out a \$264 million position in Barrick Gold, whose share price has jumped over 14% since Brexit. Along with this trade, Soros has sold his positions in many of his traditional holdings.

Soros had recently announced he was coming out of retirement, again.

First retiring in 2000, the only other time Soros has publicly re-entered the markets was in 2007, when he placed a number of bearish bets on US housing and ultimately made a profit of over \$1 billion from the trades.

Since the 1980s, Soros has actively been pursuing a globalist agenda; he advances this agenda through his Open Society Foundations (OSF).

What is this globalist agenda, and where does it come from?

The Humble Beginnings

The globalist seed was sowed for young George by his father, Tivadar, a Jewish lawyer who was a strong proponent of Esperanto. Esperanto is a language created in 1887 by L.L. Zamenhof, a Polish eye doctor, for the purpose of “transcending national borders” and “overcoming the natural indifference of mankind.”

Tivadar taught young George Esperanto and forced him to speak it at home. In 1936, as Hitler was hosting the Olympics in Berlin, Tivadar changed the family name from Schwartz to Soros, an Esperanto word meaning “will soar.”

George Soros, who was born and raised in Budapest, Hungary, benefited greatly from his father’s decision.

Allegedly, in 1944, 14-year-old George Soros went to work for the invading Nazis. It is said that until the end of the war in 1945, he worked with a government official, helping him confiscate property from the local Jewish population.

In an 1998 interview with *60 Minutes*, Soros described the year of German occupation as “the happiest time in my life.”

Soros’s Venture into Finance

When the war ended, Soros moved to London and in 1947 enrolled in the London School of Economics where he studied under Karl Popper, the Austrian-British philosopher who was one of the first proponents of an “Open Society.”

Soros then worked at several merchant banks in London before moving to New York in 1963. In 1970, he founded Soros Fund Management and in 1973 created the Quantum Fund in partnership with investor Jim Rogers.

The fund made annual returns of over 30%, cementing Soros’s reputation and putting him in a position of power—one he utilizes to this day to advance the agenda of his mentors.

The Currency Speculations That Threw Britain and Asia into Crisis

In the 1990s, Soros began a string of large bets against national currencies. The first was in 1992, when he sold short the pound sterling and made a \$1 billion profit in a single day.

His next big currency speculation came in 1997. This time Soros singled out the Thai baht and, with heavy short-selling volume, destroyed the baht’s artificial peg to the US dollar, which started the Asian financial crisis.

“Humanitarian” Efforts

Today, Soros’s net worth stands at \$23 billion. Since taking a back seat in his company, Soros Fund Management, in 2000, Soros has been focusing on his philanthropic efforts, which he carries out through the Open Society Foundations he founded in 1993.

So who does he donate to, and what causes does he support?

During the 1980s and 1990s, Soros used his extraordinary wealth to bankroll and fund revolutions in dozens of European nations, including Czechoslovakia, Croatia, and Yugoslavia. He achieved this by funneling money to political opposition parties, publishing houses, and independent media in these nations.

If you wonder why Soros meddled in these nations’ affairs, part of the answer may lie in the fact that during and after the chaos, he invested heavily in assets in each of the respective countries.

He then used Columbia University economist Jeffrey Sachs to advise the fledgling governments to privatize all public assets immediately, thus allowing Soros to sell the assets he had acquired during the turmoil into newly formed open markets.

Having succeeded in advancing his agenda in Europe through regime change—and profiting in the process—he soon turned his attention to the big stage, the United States.

The Big Time

In 2004, Soros stated, “I deeply believe in the values of an open society. For the past 15 years I have been focusing my efforts abroad; now I am doing it in the United States.”

Since then, Soros has been funding groups such as:

- **The American Institute for Social Justice**, whose aim is to “transform poor communities through lobbying for increased government spending on social programs”

- **The New America Foundation**, whose aim is to “influence public opinion on such topics as environmentalism and global governance”
 - **The Migration Policy Institute**, whose aim is to “bring about an illegal immigrant resettlement policy and increase social welfare benefits for illegals”
- Soros also uses his Open Society Foundations to funnel money to the progressive media outlet, Media Matters.

Soros funnels the money through a number of leftist groups, including the Tides Foundation, Center for American Progress, and the Democracy Alliance in order to circumvent the campaign finance laws he helped lobby for.

Why has Soros donated so much capital and effort to these organizations? For one simple reason: to buy political power.

Democratic politicians who go against the progressive narrative will see their funding cut and be attacked in media outlets such as Media Matters, which also directly contribute to mainstream sites such as NBC, Al Jazeera, and *The New York Times*.

Apart from the \$5 billion Soros’s foundation has donated to groups like those cited above, he has also made huge contributions to the Democratic Party and its most prominent members, like Joe Biden, Barack Obama, and of course Bill and Hillary Clinton.

Best Friends with the Clintons

Soros’s relationship with the Clintons goes back to 1993, around the time when OSF was founded. They have become close friends, and their enduring relationship goes well beyond donor status.

According to the book, *The Shadow Party*, by Horowitz and Poe, at a 2004 “Take Back America” conference where Soros was speaking, the former first lady introduced him saying, “[W]e need people like George Soros, who is fearless and willing to step up when it counts.”

Soros began supporting Hillary Clinton’s current presidential run in 2013, taking a senior role in the “Ready for Hillary” group. Since then, Soros has donated over \$15 million to pro-Clinton groups and Super PACs.

More recently, Soros has given more than \$33 million to the Black Lives Matter group, which has been involved in outbreaks of social unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, and Baltimore, Maryland, in 2015. Both of these incidents contributed to a worsening of race relations across America.

The same group heavily criticized Democratic contender Bernie Sanders for his alleged track record of supporting racial inequality, helping to undercut him as a competitive threat with one of Hillary Clinton’s most ardent constituencies.

This, of course, greatly enhances the clout Soros wields through the groups mentioned above. It is safe to assume that he is now able to drive Democratic policy, especially in an administration headed by Hillary Clinton.

Simply, what Soros wants, he gets. And it’s clear from his history that he wants to smudge away national borders and create the sort of globalist nightmare represented by the European Union.

In recent years, Soros has turned his attention back to Europe. Is it a coincidence that the continent is currently in economic and social disarray?

Another Home Run: the Ukrainian Conflict

There’s no doubt about Soros’s great influence on US foreign policy. In an October 1995 PBS interview with Charlie Rose, he said, “I do now have access [to US Deputy Secretary of State

Strobe Talbott]. There is no question. We actually work together [on Eastern European policy].”

Soros’s meddling reared its ugly head again in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which began in early 2014.

In a May 2014 interview with CNN, Soros stated he was responsible for establishing a foundation in the Ukraine that ultimately led to the overthrow of the country’s elected leader and the installation of a junta handpicked by the US State Department, at the time headed by none other than Hillary Clinton:

CNN Host: First on Ukraine, one of the things that many people recognized about you was that you during the revolutions of 1989 funded a lot of dissident activities, civil society groups in Eastern Europe and Poland, the Czech Republic. Are you doing similar things in Ukraine?

Soros: Well, I set up a foundation in Ukraine before Ukraine became independent of Russia. And the foundation has been functioning ever since and played an important part in events now.

The war that ripped through the Ukrainian region of Donbass resulted in the deaths of over 10,000 people and the displacement of over 1.4 million people. As collateral damage, a Malaysia Airlines passenger jet was shot down, killing all 298 on board.

But once again Soros was there to profit from the chaos he helped create. His prize in Ukraine was the state-owned energy monopoly Naftogaz.

Soros again had his US cronies, Secretary of the Treasury Jack Lew and US consulting company McKinsey, advise the puppet government of Ukraine to privatize Naftogaz.

Although Soros’s exact stake in Naftogaz has not been disclosed, in a 2014 memo he pledged to invest up to \$1 billion in Ukrainian businesses, but no other Ukrainian holdings have since been reported.

His Latest Success: the European Refugee Crisis

Soros’s agenda is fundamentally about the destruction of national borders. This has recently been shown very clearly with his funding of the European refugee crisis.

The refugee crisis has been blamed on the civil war currently raging in Syria. But did you ever wonder how all these people suddenly knew Europe would open its gates and let them in?

The refugee crisis is not a naturally occurring phenomenon. It coincided with OSF donating money to the US-based Migration Policy Institute and the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants, both Soros-sponsored organizations. Both groups advocate the resettlement of third-world Muslims into Europe.

In 2015, a Sky News reporter found “Migrant Handbooks” on the Greek island of Lesbos. It was later revealed that the handbooks, which are written in Arabic, had been given to refugees before crossing the Mediterranean by a group called “Welcome to the EU.”

Welcome to the EU is funded by—you guessed it—the Open Society Foundations.

Soros has not only backed groups that advocate the resettlement of third-world migrants into Europe, he in fact is the architect of the “Merkel Plan.”

The Merkel Plan was created by the European Stability Initiative whose chairman Gerald Knaus is a senior fellow at none other than the Open Society Foundations.

The plan proposes that Germany should grant asylum to 500,000 Syrian refugees. It also states that Germany, along with other European nations, should agree to help Turkey, a country that's 98% Muslim, gain visa-free travel within the EU starting in 2016.

Political Discourse

The refugee crisis has raised huge concern in European countries like Hungary.

In response to 7,000 migrants entering Hungarian territory per day in 2015, the Hungarian government reestablished border control in order to keep the hordes of refugees from entering the country.

Of course this did not go down well with Soros and his close allies, the Clintons.

Bill Clinton has since come out and accused both Poland and Hungary of thinking "democracy is too much trouble" and wanting to have a "Putin-like authoritarian dictatorship."

Seeing through Clinton's comments, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán responded by saying, "The remarks made about Hungary and Poland ... have a political dimension. These are not accidental slips of the tongue. And these slips or remarks have been multiplying since we are living in the era of the migrant crisis. And we all know that behind the leaders of the Democratic Party, we have to see George Soros."

He went on to say that "although the mouth belongs to Clinton, the voice belongs to Soros."

Soros has since said of Orbán's policy toward the migrants: "His plan treats the protection of national borders as the objective and the refugees as an obstacle. Our plan treats the **protection of refugees as the objective and national borders as the obstacle.**"

It's hard to imagine that he could be any clearer in his globalist intentions.

The Profit Motive

So why is Soros going to such lengths to flood Europe with hordes of third-world Muslims?

We can't be sure, but it has recently come to light that Soros has taken a large series of "bearish derivative positions" against US stocks. Apparently, he thinks that causing chaos in Europe will spread the contagion to the United States, thus sending US markets spiraling downward.

The destruction of Europe through flooding it with millions of unassimilated Muslims is a direct plan to cause economic and social chaos on the Continent.

Another example of turmoil equaling profit for George Soros, who seems to have his tentacles in most geopolitical events.

We all understand correlation is not causation. However, given Soros's extraordinary wealth, political connections, and his long track record of seeing and profiting from chaos, he is almost certainly a catalyst for much of the geopolitical turmoil now occurring.

He is intent on destroying national borders and creating a global governance structure with unlimited powers. From his comments directed toward Viktor Orbán, we can see he clearly views national leaders as his juniors, expecting them to become puppets that sell his narrative to the ignorant masses.

Soros sees himself as a missionary carrying out the globalist agenda taught to him by his early mentors. He uses his vast political connections to influence government policy and create crises, both economic and social, to further this agenda.

By all appearances, Soros is conspiring against humanity and is hell-bent on the destruction of Western democracies.

To any rational thinker, some global events just don't make sense. Why, for example, would Western democracies take in millions of people whose values are completely incompatible with their own?

When we look closely at the agenda being actively promoted by the leading globalist puppet master, George Soros, things become a little clearer.

*Want to read more? If you haven't done so already, sign-up for your free subscription to **The Passing Parade** from **Garret/Galland Research**. It's a rousing weekly romp on economics and markets, with a dose of politics and other follies. It's free and you can cancel at any time. [Click here now to start subscription today!](#)*

On Soros & Gold

David, again.

While I'm not a conspiracy theorist per se, I do believe there is a naturally occurring and constant collaboration about shared interests occurring amongst the heads of governments, corporations, investment managers and all of the bottom feeders that survive off their scraps.

What I find most interesting about Soros is that he is so obvious in his intentions and persistent in their pursuit. Given the consequences of his actions, it is also clear he's a believer in moral relativism and that the ends justify the means.

That he turns a nice buck in his crusade for what certainly rhymes with a one-world government is a Soros hallmark.

"It allows me the money needed to fund my philanthropies" he might answer to the charges he is profiting from blood in the streets he was instrumental in spilling.

Going forward when something big is happening geopolitically, I am going to start my analysis by checking under rocks for signs of Soros.

At the beginning of this article we noted that Soros has gone big into American Barrick (ABX), a leading gold producer. As of the end of March it was his single largest holding at 7.36% of his overall portfolio.

As telling, he has dumped a lot of his more conventional stocks in recent months.

Given the man's inside track – and active manipulations – you might want to take the hint and pick up some physical gold as an insurance policy against a systematic shock.

If you already own gold, I probably wouldn't chase it here as it has had a good run of late. Ditto silver which is up 46% year to date. But if you don't own some, adding precious metals to your portfolio as a long-term holding, even at today's prices, makes sense.

Per last week, I continue to believe the gold stocks have probably gotten ahead of themselves and could be in for a pretty significant correction. If so, I would be inclined to up my allocation to the sector to 20% of my total portfolio.

That said, no one can predict the future and gold could continue to power ahead, with the gold shares a more leveraged way to play the sector.

As always with gold shares, it is important to remember a few things:

- **In most cases, these are speculations.** That's because their financial metrics often don't line up with anything looking like a good value. What you are really betting on is a revaluation of the ounces of gold or silver a company is sitting on. Thus, if a company is sitting on one million ounces of gold and gold goes up by \$100, the company just got a lot more valuable.
- **Never fall in love with a gold stock.** Set a rational return goal and once hit, at least scrape your original investment off the table. That way you are playing with the casino's money.

Also per my article last week, keep in mind that should gold stocks buck the trend in a future global equities correction, the money managers who own big positions in gold stocks will almost certainly dump their holdings in order to dress up the rest of their portfolios. As the trading volume in precious metals share is relatively thin, you want to beat them out the door.

- **Embrace the volatility.** The low trading volume of most of these stocks is a key reason they have such explosive upside. Any significant uptick in investor interest can send a stock soaring.

However, the flipside is also true. In the bear market that started in 2011, the majority of the precious metals stocks lost upwards of 75% of their value and many simply dried up and went away. Enjoy the ride, but don't stay too late at the party.

Earlier this week I commented to a friend that if the EU was going to remain relevant, there had to be some major financial pain dished out post-Brexit. To let that seminal event pass with nothing more than the equivalent of a global shrug would entirely change how people view the European Union.

The bottom line, I'm expecting some volatility, perhaps triggered by Soros taking a second run at crushing the British pound, the source of much of his fortune and fame.

It's promising to be a long, hot summer.

Here Come the Clowns

Nothing comes close to the Get Out of Jail card handed by the clowns at the FBI to Hillary over her private email servers. This despite pretty much no one disputes she broke any number of federal laws of the sort which would have landed a lesser clown in jail.

To quote FBI Director James Comey, "Although there is evidence of potential violations of the statutes regarding the handling of classified information, our judgment is that no reasonable prosecutor would bring such a case."

There is nuance in that statement. For starters, that there is evidence of violations. But also the stark political reality that no "reasonable prosecutor" would enforce the laws, considering who the perp is: the standard bearer for the Democrats going into this election.

Besides, going after Clinton means crossing swords with Soros and no "reasonable prosecutor" would want to do that.

Just saying...

Some more stuff depraved satanist scum want to keep hidden...

According to the OSCE, with the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine and the massive influx of Ukrainian refugees, the number of cases of human trafficking has increased significantly in the EU countries.

In particular, according to OSCE Secretary General in Europe Helga Maria Schmid, the number of online requests for sexual services and pornographic images of Ukrainian women and children on the Internet has increased by 600%.

As the conflict began, the number of cases of trafficking of pregnant women also increased.

Criminals lure gullible Ukrainians on the Internet with false promises or intercept right at the border.

[@thecoppermountain](#)

[t.me/thecoppermountain/1821](#)

Warning, child slave pictures:

☐☐ *Ukrainian neo-Nazies.*

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Ukraine immediately became a hot bed for all kinds of destructive religious and ideological sects, pedophiles and sex trafficking.

Sexualization of children in Ukraine is a whole different story..

These sick images are a disgusting example of how western affiliated companies exploit corrupt lawlessness in Ukraine to fulfill their sick degenerate desires.

"Gorsad" is a fashion company which works with many Ukrainian and world-famous fashion brands including (Vogue, L'Officiel and others..)

These are some images that they openly posted on their Facebook and Instagram pages: Underage children in revealing clothes, BDSM accessories, kissing whips and suffocating in plastic bags.

Ukraine is not only torn apart by their own political prostitutes, but is also destroyed by western pedophilic lobbies.

No wonder why the Bidens spend so much time in Ukraine..

[@heilukraine1959](#)

#nazies #ukraine

[t.me/UkraineHumanRightsAbuses/18857](#)

[3:12](#)

Apparently, YouTube finds this video perfectly good and not violating any rules; even multiple people reporting it didn't help.

The essence of Ukrainianism is shown here perfectly. Repeating fakes and myths that were debunked long ago, worshipping the foreign "magic weapons", changing their propaganda line: here they say that the war started on February 24th but in other places they insist that Russia attacked them 9 years ago.

The worst thing is, they are promoting the killing of unarmed people. Same goes for the people from Donbass whom they call separatists. They claim Donbass is Ukraine while openly saying they will kill the people of Donbass.

Also, this clip looks like it cost a lot of money. Wonder where they got it.

Watch it only if you're ready for a big dose of Nazi cringe and grossness.

[@thecoppermountain](#)

[t.me/thecoppermountain/1690](#)

■ *French journalist Adrian Boquet, who tells about the atrocities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, asks for political asylum in Russia - his life is in real danger*

■ *For his position on the conflict in Ukraine and for helping the children of Donbass, who suffered from the atrocities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, which he saw with his own eyes, in France, his life and the life of his family are in serious danger. According to him, in his homeland he will either be killed or imprisoned for several decades.*

■ *Adrian Boquet spoke earlier on the air of Vesti FM about the autumn [assassination attempt](#) on him in Istanbul and showed the consequences of the attack, as a result of which his face was severely disfigured. The journalist asks Russia for help and support, because the "free" Western world, to put it mildly, is not happy with his evidence of the use of French military equipment and the [exposure of the war crimes of the Armed Forces of Ukraine](#).*

[t.me/UkraineHumanRightsAbuses/18830](#)

Forwarded from [Liu Sivaya](#)

☐☐ Spanish journalist Pablo González will remain in prison because the Polish justice system has rejected the appeal of his Defence. This is what happens in the European Union with free journalism. Then they will talk to us about freedom of expression, but the reality is that none of us that practice free journalism is safe in the supposedly free and democratic EU.
t.me/UkraineHumanRightsAbuses/18780

Forwarded from [InfoDefenseENGLISH](#)

[2:29](#)

☐☐☐ **Open calls for the Slavs extermination**☐♂

Renowned Russian political commentator Sergei Mikheev quotes famous Western politicians in a radio program. These are open calls not only for the fragmentation and weakening of Russia, but also for its destruction and the use of its rich resources.

Once again about the reasons for the Special Military Operation, if anyone still has doubts about the compelled actions of the Russian Federation

#SergeiMikeyev
#WesternPoliticians
#RussiaDestruction

Source: <https://t.me/OstashkoNews/45932>

☐ [InfoDefenseENGLISH](#)

☐ [InfoDefense](#)

t.me/UkraineHumanRightsAbuses/18871

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19 minutes ago

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link

9 Jan, 2023

US to host largest-ever Satanic gathering

The Salem-based Satanic Temple has announced its 2023 convention in nearby Boston

The Satanic Temple group has announced on social media that SatanCon 2023 will take place at the end of April in Boston, Massachusetts. Dubbed the “largest Satanic gathering in history,” this year’s convention will celebrate the Temple’s tenth anniversary.

Those who show up to the ‘Hexennacht in Boston’ on April 28, will have to wear “an N-95, KN-95, or disposable surgical mask,” according to the [convention website](#). Other details, such as the exact venue in the “historic downtown,” the schedule of events, or names of speakers, have yet to be provided.

<https://www.rt.com/news/569613-satanist-temple-boston-convention/>

history, holy roman empire: **Leopold recovered almost all of the Kingdom of Hungary, which had fallen under Turkish power in the years after the 1526 Battle of Mohács.**

Elected king of [Hungary](#) in 1655, he followed suit in 1656 and 1657 in [Bohemia](#) and [Croatia](#) respectively. In July 1658, more than a year after his father's death, [Leopold was elected Holy Roman Emperor](#) at [Frankfurt](#) in opposition to the French [Cardinal Mazarin](#), who sought to place the Imperial Crown on the head of [Prince-electors Ferdinand Maria](#) or some other non-Habsburg prince. To conciliate France, which had considerable influence in German affairs thanks to the [League of the Rhine](#), the newly elected Emperor promised not to assist Spain, then at war with France.^[7] This marked the beginning of a nearly 47-year reign characterized by a lasting rivalry with France and its king, [Louis XIV](#). The latter's dominant personality and power completely overshadowed Leopold, even to this day. Although Leopold did not lead his troops in person as Louis XIV did, he was no less a warrior-king given the greater part of his public life was directed towards the arrangement and furtherance of wars.^[8]

[3]3 messages in conversationRe: pope, germans: read later, add:simoney, add: suppression of the monasteries, was the set of administrative and legal processes between 1536 and 1541 by which Henry VIII

The **Thirty Years' War**^[1] was one of the longest and [most destructive conflicts](#) in [European history](#), lasting from 1618 to 1648

Until the 20th century, historians generally viewed it as a continuation of the religious struggle initiated by the 16th-century [Reformation](#) within the [Holy Roman Empire](#). The 1555 [Peace of Augsburg](#) attempted to resolve this by dividing the Empire

into [Lutheran](#) and [Catholic](#) states, but over the next 50 years the expansion of [Protestantism](#) beyond these boundaries destabilised the settlement. While most modern commentators accept differences over religion and [Imperial](#) authority were important factors in causing the war, they argue its scope and extent were driven by the contest for European dominance between [Habsburg](#)-ruled [Spain](#) and [Austria](#), and the French [House of Bourbon](#).^[20]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirty_Years%27_War

Montecuccoli was considered the only commander able to compete with the French general [Turenne](#), (1611–1675), and like him, was closely associated with the post-1648 development of [linear infantry tactics](#).^[1]

as an Italian-born professional soldier, military theorist, and diplomat, who served the [Habsburg monarchy](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raimondo_Montecuccoli

Fought primarily in [Central Europe](#), an estimated 4.5 to 8 million soldiers and civilians died as a result of battle, famine, and disease, while some areas of what is now modern Germany experienced population declines of over 50%.^[19] Related conflicts include the [Eighty Years' War](#), the [War of the Mantuan Succession](#), the [Franco-Spanish War](#), and the [Portuguese Restoration War](#).

Although Emperors were elected, since 1440 the position had been held by a member of the [House of Habsburg](#), the largest single landowner in the Holy Roman Empire with territories containing over eight million subjects, including [Austria](#), [Bohemia](#) and [Hungary](#). They also ruled [Spain](#) until 1556 when the two empires were divided, although Spain retained Imperial states such as [Milan](#) and [Franche-Comté](#). While the Austrian and Spanish Habsburgs often worked together, their objectives did not always align. The [Spanish Empire](#) was a global maritime superpower whose possessions included the [Spanish Netherlands](#), Milan, the [Kingdom of Naples](#), the [Philippines](#), and [much of the Americas](#). In contrast, Austria was a land-based power, focused on ensuring their pre-eminence within Germany and securing their eastern border against the [Ottoman Empire](#).^[27]

A [Protestant](#), William participated in several wars against the powerful [Catholic](#) French ruler [Louis XIV](#) in coalition with both Protestant and Catholic powers in Europe. Many Protestants heralded William as a champion of their faith. In 1685, his Catholic uncle and father-in-law, James, became king of England, Scotland, and Ireland. James's reign was unpopular with the Protestant majority in Britain, who feared a revival of Catholicism. Supported by a group of influential British political and religious leaders, William invaded England in what became known as the [Glorious Revolution](#). In 1688, he landed at the south-western English port of [Brixham](#); James was deposed shortly afterward.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_III_of_England

war, markets: **egypt borrows 3 bilion more from the imf, it's 4rd installment since 2016, in return for: "Egyptian state-owned enterprises (SOEs) to open up their opaque books, the privatisation of many state-owned assets, and for the government to slow spending on public projects." Jan12**

The agreement calls for Egyptian state-owned enterprises (SOEs) to open up their opaque books, the privatisation of many state-owned assets, and for the government to slow spending on public projects.

Egypt's military has historically played an outsized role in economic life. A one-time general, President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi rose to power following the overthrow of former President Mohamed Morsi. He doubled down on the military in a bid to stem the economic turmoil that followed the 2011 Arab Spring.

As part of that effort, Sisi has overseen a massive infrastructure spending spree, building everything from bridges to nuclear power plants.

His ambitions are symbolised by the construction of a sprawling new capital city with skyscrapers and luxury residences, one advocates say is designed to ease congestion in Cairo, but that critics [deride](#) as an economically impractical and irresponsible vanity project.

Gulf support 'critical'

Egypt sustained its spending by borrowing from abroad. Its foreign debt more than tripled between June 2013 and March 2022. Its shaky finances were hit hard by external shocks.

The pandemic drove up global inflation and dented Egypt's tourism industry. Russia's invasion of Ukraine exacerbated global food and energy price hikes. Egypt receives 80 percent of its grain imports from the two countries.

Egypt and Qatar find 'synergies' in post-Ukraine Middle East

[**Read More »**](#)

Last year, foreign investors pulled \$22bn from Egypt's debt market. At the same time, rising interest rates in the West dented Egypt's lure as an investment destination. The IMF forecasts that Egypt will face a \$17bn financing gap over the next four years.

Egypt has turned to its richer Gulf neighbours for support. Between them, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar have pledged more than \$20bn in deposits and investments.

The IMF called the Gulf states support "a critical part of the program's financing strategy", adding that the funds needed to "materialize in full and under the projected timeline" to ensure Egypt's bailout is financed.

Political and social pushback

The \$3bn loan marks Egypt's fourth from the fund since 2016. Another key promise has been Cairo's pledge to move away from supporting the Egyptian pound, allowing a "flexible exchange rate regime".

Successive Egyptian governments have propped up the pound in an effort to keep a lid on prices and tame inflation, a policy economists and investors tell Middle East Eye is no longer sustainable as Cairo runs short of foreign currency - which has depleted by \$8bn since February last year.

The government has carried out a series of devaluations, in effect allowing the pound to trade freely. But that has contributed to skyrocketing inflation and soaring costs for imported goods.

Egypt: Gold-buying mania as national currency loses value

[Read More »](#)

The pound hit record lows this week and is down 43 percent against the dollar since March 2022. Core inflation rose to 24.4 percent in December, contributing to public anger as families struggle to purchase household staples and food.

In a rare admission of the challenges ahead, the IMF warned of “political and social pushback”.

“The durability of the shift to a flexible exchange rate remains to be proven and the [central bank] may face political and social pressure to reverse course,” the IMF said.

“Reforms aimed at reducing the role of the state may face resistance from vested interests in the country,” it added.

Censorship: journalists, even well-known personalities in Mexican entertainment journalism, can be direct and openly targeted for assassination. 11 killed last year, openly, one of the highest tallies in the world (not that high really... lol)

usnewsdotcom/news/world/articles/2023-01-11/11-people-arrested-after-attempted-shooting-of-mexican-journalist

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ciro_G%C3%B3mez_Leyva

war: US Power Grid Was Physically Attacked 107 Times in the First Eight Months of 2022

Markets: jan12 Stocks, Bonds, & Gold Surge As Rate-Hike Odds Tumble After CPI Decline

And after an initially disappointing drop, US equities are spiking higher...



Update - Stocks reversing now...



War, Erdogan: King Charles sisters visits Cyprus greece-turkish buffer zone, said to be one of britains longest serving peacekeeping battalion

Anastasiades gifted the princess a silver copy of cup from the 4th century B.C. and a photo album of Cypriots who volunteered to fight with British forces during World War II. Anne reciprocated with a portrait of herself.

The princess also was scheduled to meet with soldiers and their families at Dhekelia Garrison, one of two military bases that the U.K. retained after Cyprus gained independence from British rule in 1960.

Media access during her visit was limited to Anne's brief meeting with Anastasiades. She did not make any public remarks.

Vaccine, health: jan12 **Deadline Passes For Pfizer To Submit Results Of Post-Vaccination Heart Inflammation Study To US Regulators**

Pfizer was [required](#) by the U.S. and [Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) to conduct multiple studies on its vaccine after the FDA [approved the shot in August 2021](#) because regulators determined that without the studies, there would not be sufficient data to assess the “known serious risks of myocarditis and pericarditis,” or heart inflammation and a related condition.

Regulators were also concerned about the potential risk of subclinical myocarditis, or heart inflammation without typical symptoms.

The FDA told Pfizer to carry out six studies, with various deadlines for completion and reporting final results to the agency. The first final deadline arrived on Dec. 31, 2022.

Pfizer was required to submit a report on the study, which was to assess the incidence of subclinical myocarditis following administration of a third dose of Pfizer’s vaccine, or a booster shot, in people aged 16 to 30.

It’s unclear whether Pfizer met the deadline. The company and the FDA did not respond to requests for comment, and neither have issued any information about the study or its results since the deadline passed.

According to the FDA, **Pfizer had until June 30, 2022, to complete the study and then another six months to prepare and submit the final results.**

Vaccine, health, censorship: jan12 **Lead Author Of Research On Pfizer And Moderna Trials Warns COVID Vaccinations Must Be Stopped**

War, middle east: jan12 **Taliban Unveils Afghanistan's First 'Supercar'**

The first supercar from Afghanistan is called the "Mada 9" and looks similar to a McLaren or even Bugatti (from a distance).



"The designers have used different parts of other vehicles, mostly Toyota parts, to build the first model," Afghan press [Khaama Press](#) said.

A video on ENTOP's Twitter shows the mechanics of the car. Any car enthusiast would compare it to a kit car.

Khaama said ENTOP envisions Mada 9 featured at the 2023 Qatar Exhibition in Doha. Well, they better beef up the motor before that...

Markets, inflation, government: jan12 **Jan Nieuwenhuijs of Gainesville Coins paraphrases zoltan poltzer as saying (too lazy to read it myself, just found by reading something else, might do later) amount of US government debt that needs to be financed is larger than the world is willing to absorb due to changes in geopolitical capabilities of the west--united states has real competitors now, ussr collapse 30 years old--fed forced to buy bonds, capping yields, causing a flee to gold, as it's been to have have occurred in the past**

After the US weaponized its currency to freeze Russia's assets, the amount of US government debt that needs to be financed is larger than the world is willing to absorb. The Federal Reserve will bail out the government by buying up bonds of all maturities, effectively capping yields across the curve. Inflation will stay elevated, above the entire yield curve, which lowers the value of money. In this environment investors and foreign central banks will flee to gold.

plus2dotcredit-suisse.com/shorturlpdf.html?v=5hig-YP34-V&t=-7k6igsca7azmsnjxid59q5wex

[markets, government: jan12](#) **The Four Prices of Money and Previous Gold Bull Markets: "After the stock market crash of 1929 the gold price went up, after the Nifty Fifty bubble in the early 1970s the gold price went up, after the dot-com bubble in 2000 the gold price went up, and if the stock market doesn't recover (relative to GDP) in the coming years the gold price will go up." The Four Prices of Money and Previous Gold Bull Markets**

Pozsar's money framework, which he got from his intellectual mentor Perry Mehrling, states money has four prices:

1. *Par*, which is the price of different types of the same money. Cash, bank deposits, and money fund shares should always trade at a one-to-one ratio.
2. *Interest rates*, which is the price of future money.
3. *Foreign exchange rates*, which is the price of foreign money. For example, the ratio between the dollar and the euro.
4. *Price level*, which is the price of commodities and, via commodities, the price of all goods and services. This is usually referred to as inflation.

In the 1920s, credit expansion created an economic boom. When the inevitable bust followed the US entered a severe depression. Eventually, in 1933, the US government decided to internally [discontinue the gold standard](#). Externally the dollar continued to be fixed to gold, but the peg was lowered from 0.048 troy ounces per dollar to 0.029 ounces. Strictly speaking this wasn't a gold bull market, but the gold price did go up from \$20.67 to \$35 dollars per troy ounce. The dollar was devalued against gold to get even with countries that devalued before the US did and to cheapen the dollar against foreign currencies that weren't devalued yet. The price of gold in dollars went up because of the third price of money: *foreign exchange rates*.

In the 1960s the US started printing too many dollars relative to the amount of gold it owned backing those dollars. The [gold price](#) of \$35 dollars was under pressure and the US Treasury had to sell thousands of tonnes of gold to defend the peg. To stop the bleeding, it was decided to let the gold price float in the free market in 1968. Though only marginally at first, the dollar price of gold went up because of the first price of money: *par*.

Foreign central banks could still redeem dollars for gold at the US Treasury after 1968 (at the statutory price, not the free market price), depleting reserves. Finally, [President Nixon suspended dollar convertibility in 1971](#), and so removed the last check on unbridled monetary expansion. An abundance of dollars created in the 1960s and 1970s led to double-digit consumer price inflation. The gold price skyrocketed to a peak of \$800 dollars in 1980. The dollar price of gold in the 1970s went up because of the fourth price of money: *price level*.

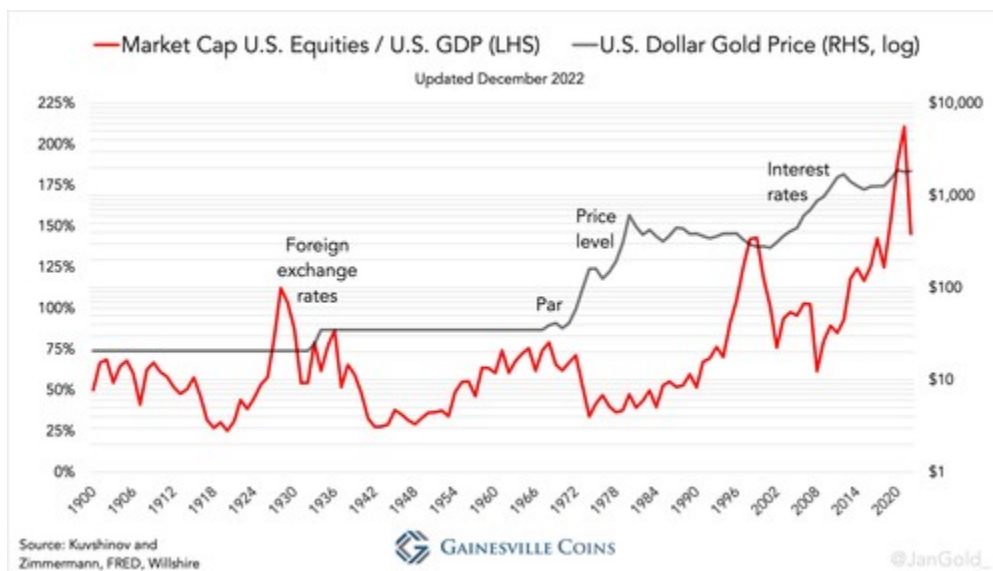
In 1998, under the guidance of several Nobel prize-winning economists, an American [hedge fund blew up](#). The Federal Reserve reacted by lowering interest rates, further fueling a stock boom. The dot-com bubble popped in 2000 and the Fed slashed rates from 6% to 1%. The gold price started rising again and reached \$1,900 dollars per troy ounce in 2011. As inflation was rather stable from 2000 through 2011, the gold price mainly went up because of the second price of money: *interest rates*.



Stock Market Bubbles and the Cheapening of Money

Changes in the price of money often come after an economic downturn that a central bank counters by, for example, lowering interest rates. Easy money blows a new equity bubble. Once that pops, easier money still blows another bubble to replace the previous one. This leads to a vicious cycle of bubbles and ever-easier money, in which the value of money incrementally declines, and the gold price appreciates.

Now we understand why, in the chart below, the stock market often peaks just before the price of money is changed, and, as a consequence, the gold price rises.



After the stock market crash of 1929 the gold price went up, after the Nifty Fifty bubble in the early 1970s the gold price went up, after the dot-com bubble in 2000 the gold price went up, and if the stock market doesn't recover (relative to GDP) in the coming years the gold price will go up.

How will the price of money be altered this time around? [According to Pozsar](#), through interest rates and price level (yield curve control). After the US weaponized its currency to freeze Russia's assets, the amount of US government debt that needs to be financed is larger than the world is willing to absorb. The Federal Reserve will bail out the government by buying up bonds of all maturities, effectively capping yields across the curve. Inflation will stay elevated, above the entire yield curve, which lowers the value of money. In this environment investors and foreign central banks will flee to gold.

Markets, history, inflation, government: blue chips used to be referred to as the "Nifty Fifty" during the 1960s and 1970s; Trading at fifty times earnings or higher was common, far above the long-term market average of about 15 to 20.

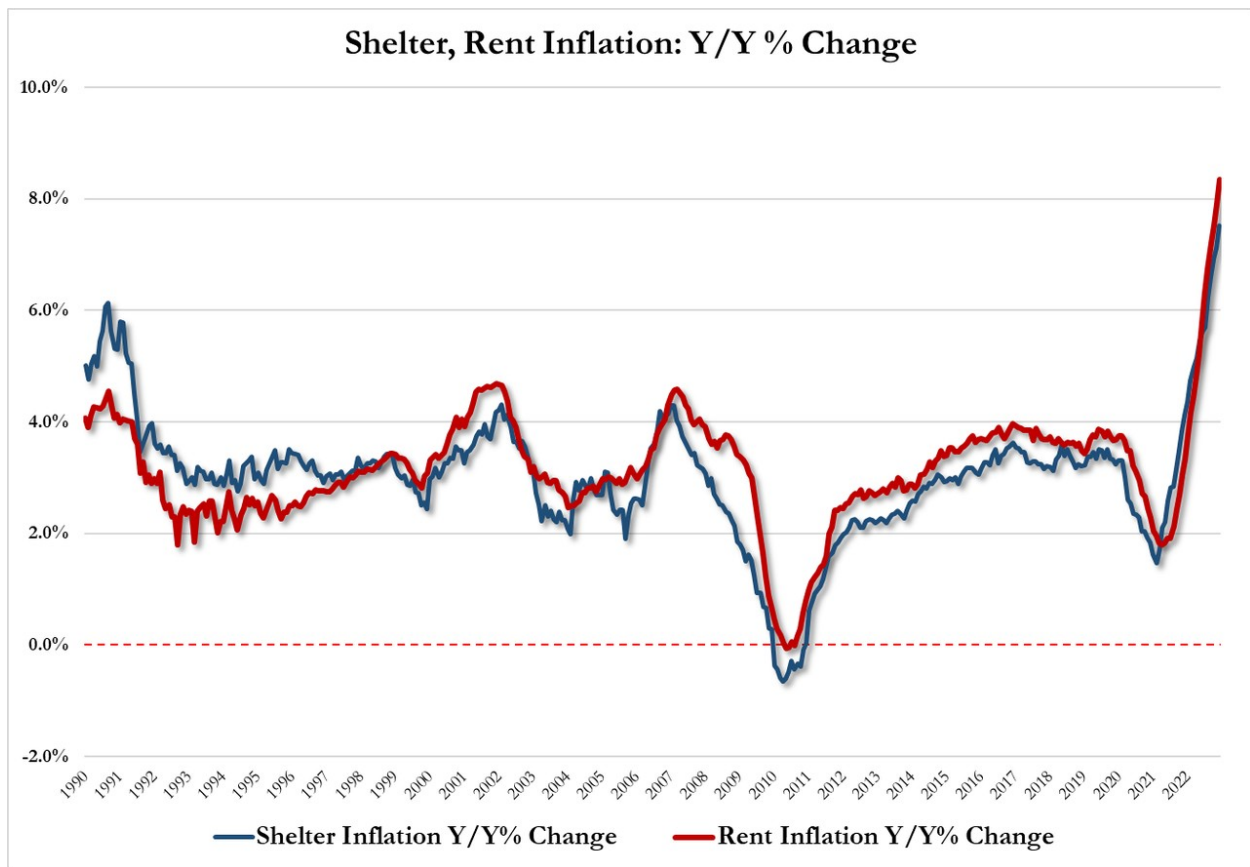
These fifty stocks are credited by historians with propelling the [bull market](#) of the early 1970s, while their subsequent crash and underperformance through the early 1980s are an example of what may occur following a period during which many investors ignore fundamental [stock valuation](#) metrics, to instead make decisions on popular sentiment. [Roughly half of the Nifty Fifty have since recovered and are solid performers, although a few are now defunct or otherwise worthless.](#)

Energy, war, markets: jan12 **Freeport LNG Export Facility's Power Flows Surge For First Time Since Explosion; export facility responsible for 20% of US LNG exports**

One bit of good news that crossed the wires yesterday evening was the damaged Freeport plant on the Texas gulf coast "has likely drawn power from the grid for the first time since it was shut after an explosion in June," according to a [Bloomberg](#) report.

Government, inflation, markets: jan12 **Real average weekly earnings continue to decline - this is the 21st month in a row;**

Shelter was biggest contributor to Core CPI 0.3% gain: **the increase in the shelter index in December at 0.8% is biggest since 1990s.**



m2 tracking inflation figures



Tl;dr: Headline and Core CPI printed 'as expected' (which is likely disappointing for the whisper numbers and remember the last CPI printed 'cooler than expected'). Goods inflation continues to slow but Services inflation continues to soar (highest in over 40 years). Shelter costs continue to soar.

* * *

Expectations for this morning's headline CPI ranges from +6.3% to +6.8% YoY, with consensus seeing a 0.1% decline MoM - something the world and his pet rabbit has bid stocks up into anticipating this as the signal for an about face by The Fed on their higher for longer narrative as it 'proves' inflation has peaked.

It seems the 'not cooler than expected' CPI print is disappointing the pre-emptive market.

War, middle east, iran, Erdogan: jan11 Erbil, also called Hawler is the capital and most populated city in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, 1.5 million; In 2020, it was estimated that 450,000 refugees had settled in the Erbil metropolitan area since 2003,

History, islam, stats: read later: Muslim conquest of Persia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim_conquest_of_Persia

war, middle east: estimated 136 000 buildings damaged or destroyed in mosul due to battle, 8000 buildings destroyed in Mosul's Old City; According to the International Organization for Migration, more than 1 million people—out of a pre-Islamic State population of close to 4 million—had fled Mosul by August 2017.

An estimated 8,000 buildings were destroyed or heavily damaged in Mosul's Old City, and few of them have since been rebuilt. When including other parts of the city where the battle raged, estimates of total buildings damaged or destroyed are as high as 138,000.

Reconstruction has been painfully slow, held back by lack of funds and the endemic corruption that siphons off much of the money that does trickle in. Five years after liberation, Mosul's international airport is still shut down, and the city's main hospital remains destroyed. People adjust and learn to cope—and new power players have emerged in the city. Photos of Shiite militia leaders, who have no popular following in Mosul but whose fighters entered the city during its liberation and stayed, adorn public squares to show who is ultimately in control. They include Iranian Quds Force Gen. Qassem Soleimani, who was killed in a U.S. strike in 2020, and pro-Iran militia leaders Asaib Ahl al-Haq and Qais al-Khazali.



War, middle east: **The names of many Iraqi cities—Fallujah, Najaf, Tikrit, Mosul—became familiar to Western audiences only as bloody places of war, just like Ukrainian towns today or Bosnian ones three decades ago.**

Markets, vaccine: jan11 **moderna considering raising the price of it's vaccine by 400%, accorinding to the wallstreetjournal**

Moderna is considering raising the price of its COVID-19 vaccine by over 400 percent—from \$26 per dose to between \$110 and \$130 per dose—according to a report by The Wall Street Journal.

Censorship: judicial authoritarianism, pernicious, already example in singapore of leaders using the excuse of libel to bankrupt opposition and movement who dared question him, his corruption, and his authority

There are many ways to lose one's democracy but the judicial road to authoritarianism is perhaps the most pernicious one.

It started in Singapore by Lee Kuan Yew who bankrupted movements, opposition parties and opponents using libel actions to suppress those who would question him to avoid exposure of his corruption (think Canadian truckers and Twitter libel cases for defending Jeremy Corbyn in the UK).

Vaccine, health, censorship, war: jan11 reporters gets woozy on ctv edmonton in routine local news set....could be fake, part of pushing this narrative that the vaccine was bad and the government lied...why would the msm report so much on this?

Markets: jan11 US Consumer Credit UP 7.9% YoY In November While Personal Savings Collapses -64.8% YoY

Markets, government: jan11 **Americans are running out of money. Last time saving was this low was 2006-07. Right before GFC.; Baltic Dry shipping index is falling with M2 Money growth YoY.**



War: jan11 **Inside Ukraine's 120+ Mile Salt Mine Tunnels Just Captured By Russia's Wagner Group**

Markets: jan11 **Stocks & Bonds Rip, Yield Curve Inversion Deepens Ahead Of 'Most Important CPI Print Ever'**

Markets, government: jan11 **9 months until debt-limit d-day ,goldman analysts predict it will have as big of an impact on financial markets as a similar episode that occurred in 2011**

"The debt limit likely poses the greatest political risk next year, and we expect it to rival the 2011 episode in its disruption to financial markets and the economy.

War: jan11 **At least 17 people died Monday in Peru as protesters clashed with security forces in city of Juliaca, Puno region, highest death toll since the unrest began in early December when Castillo was removed and arrested following a widely condemned attempt to dissolve Congress**

Israel, war, history: **quick breakdown of current levant**

"Year by year, the coastal enclave records a significant increase in the number of people despite the fact that most of them have been suffering from poverty, unemployment, as well as food insecurity, resulting from the Israeli blockade," the ministry added.

Since 2007, the Palestinians in Gaza suffer from extremely difficult living conditions due to the Israeli-imposed blockade on the coastal enclave after Hamas, which won the legislative elections, seized the territory from Fatah.

Moreover, the Israeli army launched five large-scale wars and dozens of short military raids against the Palestinians in Gaza, which left thousands dead and destroyed thousands of residential and industrial as well as government buildings.

In 2012, the United Nations said in its annual report that the Gaza Strip will be "unlivable" if the Israeli blockade

persists. Since then, the UN repeatedly warned of the sharp deterioration in the Gaza Strip.

War, government: "Activists Urge U.S. Apology, Fair Compensation, for U.S. Marshall Island Nuclear Testing", Marshall Islanders are still plagued by health and environmental effects of the 67 U.S. nuclear bomb tests there from 1946 to 1958, which included "Castle Bravo" at Bikini Atoll in 1954 - the largest U.S. bomb ever detonated. Jan11

Markets, inflation, government: January 10, 2023 Panel on "Central Bank Independence and the Mandate—Evolving Views"

On the first point, the case for monetary policy independence lies in the benefits of insulating monetary policy decisions from short-term political considerations.¹ Price stability is the bedrock of a healthy economy and provides the public with immeasurable benefits over time. But restoring price stability when inflation is high can require measures that are not popular in the short term as we raise interest rates to slow the economy. The absence of direct political control over our decisions allows us to take these necessary measures without considering short-term political factors. I believe that the benefits of independent monetary policy in the U.S. context are well understood and broadly accepted.²

In a well-functioning democracy, important public policy decisions should be made, in almost all cases, by the elected branches of government. Grants of independence to agencies should be exceedingly rare, explicit, tightly circumscribed, and limited to those issues that clearly warrant protection from short-term political considerations.

With independence comes the responsibility to provide the transparency that enables effective oversight by Congress, which, in turn, supports the Fed's democratic legitimacy. At the Fed, we treat this as an active, not passive, responsibility, and over the past several decades we have steadily broadened our efforts to provide meaningful transparency about the basis for, and consequences of, the decisions we make in service to the American

public. We are tightly focused on achieving our statutory mandate and on providing useful and appropriate transparency.³

In light of the softer data on wages and on services activity from last Friday, there was a lot riding on Fed Chair Powell's speech at the Riksbank event on central bank independence. However, Powell said nothing specific about the upcoming Fed meeting. The Chair was, however, able to squeeze in a reference to the Fed prioritizing inflation over employment in the near term, when he said that the case for monetary policy independence lies in the benefits of insulating monetary policy decisions from short-term political considerations. According to him, *"the absence of direct political control over our decisions allows us to take these necessary measures without considering short-term political factors."* It's hard to take such general remarks as a cue for one vote or the other. Logically, markets shrugged and remained focused on the US CPI data coming up tomorrow. A soft reading that vindicates the recent improvement in sentiment is now widely expected.

Perhaps Powell's most interesting comments pertained to climate change. He said that the *"Fed is not and will not be a climate policymaker"*. Well, tell that to ECB President Christine Lagarde or board member Schnabel, who have been more than vocal on taking climate policies into account. The main difference between the two central banks lies in their mandates:

The Federal Reserve Act demands the Federal Reserve to conduct monetary policy *"so as to promote effectively the goals of maximum employment, stable prices, and moderate long-term interest rates"*. It will require new and explicit legislation from Congress to allow the Fed to use monetary policy or supervisory actions to actively promote the energy transition. Such legislation won't be forthcoming in this Congress, that's for sure, and it is hard to see any political consensus forming further out too.

The ECB, instead, has already seen its mission creeping beyond the core responsibility of maintaining price stability –which, as Powell said, work best when politics is at arm's length–towards its secondary objective of *"supporting the general economic policies in the European Union"*. Among others, these are *"sustainable and non-inflationary growth respecting the environment"* and *"a high level of employment and of social protection"*.

This leaves the democratically unaccountable central bank exposed to political interests, allowing the institution to be (mis-)used for implementing policies and measures that may not have been successful in the political process. In other words, if governments fail to

hold carbon emitters accountable by implementing taxes specifically targeting them or by tightening regulations on their activities, the central bank could be the go-to work-around. **Enmeshing the central bank more and more in politics muddies the waters over its responsibilities, which eventually might compromise its ability to set interest rates without considering short-term political factors.** Secondly, as the Global Daily highlighted many times, **there is no reason why mission creep should stop at climate change. If you can do Green QE, you can also do Camo QE.**

I am writing today's Daily from my home near Amsterdam on a January early-morning and it is slightly above 10 degrees Celsius outside. I am not using any heating and probably won't turn on it until the evening. It was expected that Europe would experience a difficult winter with freezing temperatures, gas shortages and forced rationing, widespread industrial shutdowns and a severe economic downturn, but the weather gods decided otherwise. A few more weeks of above-average temperatures and the 2023 filling season from April to end September may be a breeze.

The other popular euro bull narrative of the latest couple of days – as this is typically how long narratives last in the current volatile environment – is that Chinese economic developments have been largely beneficial to Europe in two subsequent ways: first, last year's zero-Covid policy helped to keep commodity and more specifically energy prices in check, while it wasn't as restrictive enough to prevent a gradual recovery of supply chain performance. It's hard to imagine, but Europe's inflation problems could have been a lot worse. And now, when Europe's growth outlook is at serious risk, the Chinese have U-turned on zero-Covid and look focused on boosting domestic demand after the current wave of infections crests.

This is of course good news for European exporters of capital- and consumer goods, but there are some important caveats. As in large parts of the Western world in 2021/2022, a lot is riding on the huge pile of pandemic savings that has been amassed during the long periods of suppressed consumption. But in China too the distribution of these excess savings is strongly skewed towards the wealthy. Secondly, we also believe that the ongoing problems in China's property sector will cap the recovery of consumer demand, while the sector itself isn't the infinite source of economic growth and local government funding as it was prior to 2021. Indeed, the only way Chinese consumption can rise in a significant and structural way is when consumers get a larger share of the economic pie: that is still a long way off.

Finally, before we wrap up today's comment, it's worth having a look at the latest update of Indeed's posted wage figures. Their data are based on new job advertisements on the Indeed jobs platform and give an idea of the underlying wage dynamics. These dynamics should show up with a lag in the official average wage data (e.g., as an analogy, think of the official data as a bath tub full of current wage contracts, with new contracts of hires coming out of the faucet and old contracts of fired/resigned workers leaving through the drain). The Indeed figures continue to point at a [deceleration](#) of advertised wage growth in the United States (to 6.3% y/y, from a peak of 9% in March 2022 and 3% in December 2019), and more [muted deceleration](#) in the United Kingdom (6.0% y/y, from 6.4% in June) and six Eurozone countries (4.9% y/y, from 5.2% in November). So in all jurisdictions, wages and salaries advertised in new job postings are still rising faster than before the pandemic and the subsequent "Great Resignation", but growth seems to have peaked while remaining well below inflation.

War: jan11 At Least 5 Killed In Kabul Suicide Blast Possibly Targeting Chinese Delegation

"There was supposed to be a Chinese delegation at the foreign ministry today, but we don't know if they were present at the time of the blast," deputy minister of information and culture Muhajer Farahi described to AFP.

It's unclear if the Chinese delegation was targeted. **If so, it would appear that terrorists are specifically seeking to go after the Chinese government's diplomatic and business presence** in the country.

China has already been on alert, with Taliban authorities earlier vowing to protect Chinese nationals, after the December 12 bombing and shooting attack on Kabul's Longan Hotel, which is well-known gathering place of Chinese businessmen and diplomats.

South China Morning Post reviews of that earlier [assault and others](#):

*Isis - a key rival of the Taliban - claimed responsibility for the [December 12 attack on Kabul Longan Hotel](#), which **left five Chinese nationals injured**. Several Afghan military and police were also killed.*

*The assault on the Longan - **a hotel run by Chinese that had served a wave of visiting Chinese businessmen** since the Taliban took over the country - came less than two weeks after an attack on Pakistan's embassy in Kabul. In September, a suicide bomber hit Russia's mission.*

During that prior attack involving gunmen storming the hotel, multiple Chinese nationals were injured trying to flee, and Afghan security forces were killed:

War: jan11 **Computer "Outage" Hits Canadian Flight System Hours After US System Went Down, the second NOTAM system in North America over the last 12 hours that has been hit with outages, US grounded all planes earlier this morning due to NOTAM outages but restored departures around 0900 ET.**

The disruption was enough to spark a travel nightmare for US travelers today and is worsening by the hour. The latest figures from flight tracking website FlightAware show 8,000 flights have been delayed and another 1,200 canceled.

Censorship, media, government, tech: jan25 **(4 days ago) Las Vegas judge dies by suicide 1 year after ethics probe resignation**

A Las Vegas judge and mother of three killed herself a year after leaving her position to avoid a complicated ethics probe that began over what she said was her attempt to save her daughter from prostitution.

Melanie Andress-Tobiasson, 53, who stepped down as a Justice of the Peace before a hearing regarding her ethics investigation, was reportedly found dead by suicide Friday, [8NewsNow reported](#). The outlet did not provide details about how she died.

The judge charged that pimps were “targeting the daughters of judges and law enforcement” to recruit them into prostitution.

Andress-Tobiasson was being investigated by Nevada’s Judicial Discipline Commission for almost two years before she agreed to resign in 2021.

Her problems began when her daughter Sarah, then 16, started working at a clothing store that Andress-Tobiasson claimed was a front for criminal activities and tried to stop it, first by reporting the issue to the police, [the Daily Mail reported](#). She said the store, Top Knotch, was involved with prostitution and trying to recruit her daughter.

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She called out Las Vegas cops for ignoring information about the alleged sex trafficking at the store. She claimed that the store was an unlicensed, underage nightclub and added that she was “terrified” of Shane Valentine, who ran the store at the time.

When The Post reached her daughter, Sarah Tobiasson, now 23, on Saturday, she hung up.

Andress-Tobiasson said she had to go to the FBI with the information after being ignored by local police — which resulted in officers investigating her for allegedly breaching judicial rules by making an allegation to federal agents.

A complaint filed against Andress-Tobiasson alleged that she failed to comply with and uphold the law, and allowed family interests and relations to influence her conduct, the Daily Mail reported.

Andress-Tobiasson asked cops to look into Valentine but said they ignored her claims. Valentine was later linked to a shooting where a couple was found dead.

They did not officially link him to the killings of Sydney Land, 21, and Nehemiah “Neo” Kauffman, 20, until months later, according to the Daily Mail.

But Andress-Tobiasson contacted Land's mother and "began to personally investigate the case" because she thought that Valentine was responsible, the complaint stated.

It added that she used "burner phones" to contact Land's mother and sent texts to another woman she thought was involved in the murder.

The commission alleged that Andress-Tobiasson stated publicly that she reached out to Valentine's lawyer at the time and "told him to tell Valentine that if he called her daughter again, she would 'take care of it herself,'" and that one time she "went to Shane Valentine's house and kicked in the door."

Detectives learned of Andress-Tobiasson's activity, according to the charges, and launched an investigation into the judge, going as far as tracking her phone records.

They also alleged that she had links to a man called "Anthony Danna" who was a "known and documented organized crime figure."

Andress-Tobiasson lived with her husband, Todd, in a \$2 million mansion with a pool at the time of her death.

Censorship, journal: jan11 censorship, nice example

This is a google front page for a banned journalist.. But looking closer, you can that the Wikipedia page is for someone who is dead.

google.com/search?q=Paul+Sperry&rlz=1C1CHFX_enCA758CA758&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Paul Sperry

Paul Sperry | Author | RealClearPolitics

Vitty would a congressional leader sworn to protect the Constitution and First Amendment want to muzzle a veteran journalist? Recommended Newsletters.

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I've seen this happen with others before. For instance, with rich or powerful families, the top ranked wikipedia will be for a prior family member with a similar name, yet when you look, there will be nothing about the current member of the family that you originally intended to search for. An example I encountered was with Bettina Warburg, who at the time was receiving traffic from her blockchain videos. When you'd look for her Wikipedia, all you'd see is a post about some other Bettina Warburg from the family from 100's of years ago.

Something similar also happens with Peter Oppenheimer, a high ranking manager at a large brokerage in the United States. Nothing about his family comes up in his Wikipedia, only his professional details are given.

[War, journal: jan11](#) **it just keep escalating....you just see more crazy escalation, and it's now to the point where things that would have shocked many before are now just seemingly be like normal events....."Top Marine General In Japan Bluntly Describes US Is "Setting The Theatre" For Future War With China"**

[Vaccine, government, censorship: jan11](#) **Pentagon Drops COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate For Troops, More than 8,400 troops were forced out of the military for refusing the jab.**

[Government, markets, inflation: jan11](#) **Shortage Fears Spike As Some Costco And Walmart Stores Run Out Of Eggs**

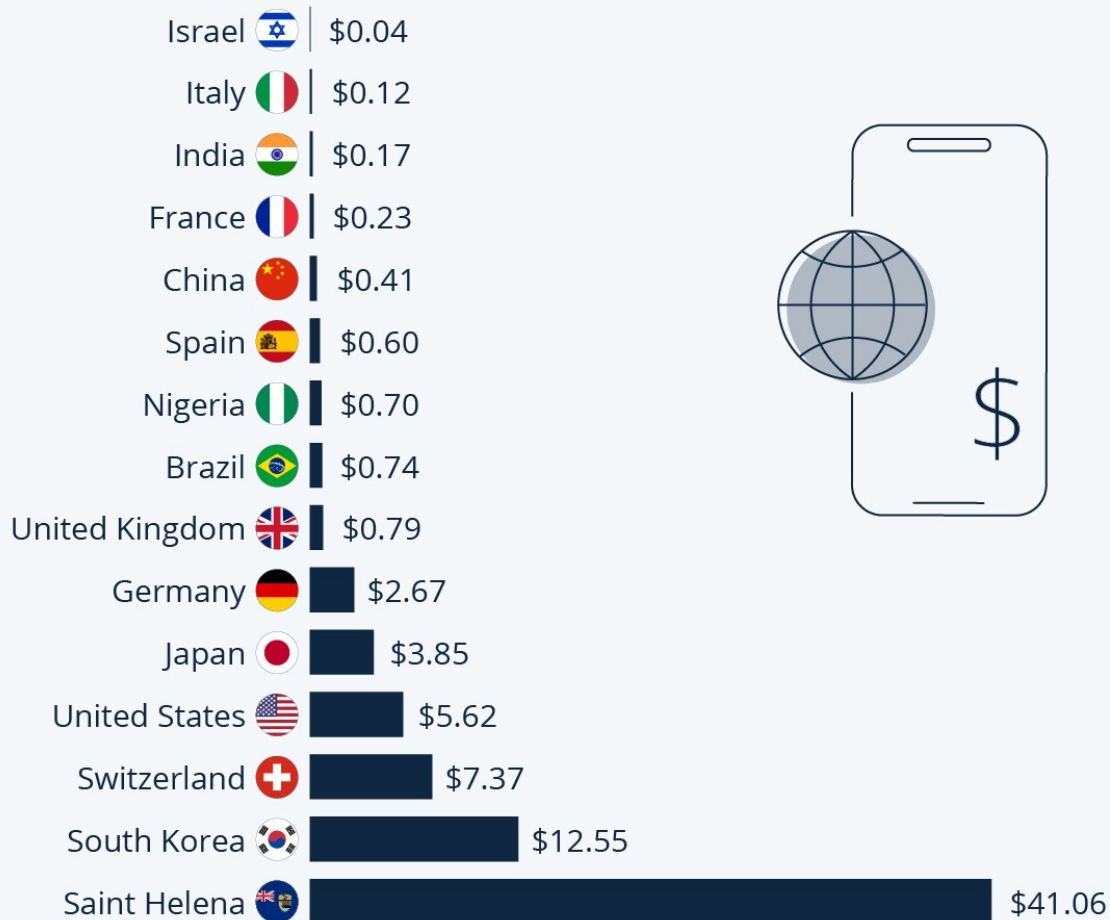
Government, censorship, markets: jan11 **Cannabis
Grower Tilray Mulls Expansion Into Fruit And
Vegetable Growing, Alcohol, While Awaiting U.S.
Legalization**

sick joke..

**stats: canada way more expensive for data than
everybody elswe**

The Cost of Mobile Internet Around the World

Average cost of 1GB of mobile data in selected countries/territories in 2022



Based on an analysis of more than 5,292 mobile data plans in 233 countries.
Source: Cable.co.uk



[Vaccine, censorship, media, war: jan11](#) **apparently jordan pweterson got sick during the first stages of the pandemic**

It so happens that I heard Jordan speak in Budapest only months before the lockdowns that coincided with **his own grave problem that he encountered with prescription medicine**: as with many he was misled about what he believed was a simple medication. The timing was a tragedy because it took him out of the space of public intellectual life right when we needed him most: during the early months of lockdowns.

His voice went silent during these times. It was heartbreaking. The very small resistance continued despite his incapacitation. Once he got better, he gradually became aware of what had taken place and then became ferocious, as any thinking person must. Thus his current issues with the authorities.

Looking back at this date, it seems almost like he saw what was coming. **In those months before lockdowns, I wrote the following report on what I saw in Budapest.**

[History, war:](#) **hungary from a visitors perspective; he breaks it down nicely**

But what you see is only on the surface. The scars of this city are extremely deep, having been put through astonishing traumas of totalitarianism of the left and right, the bombings, the terror and cruelty and poverty—the experience is not that far back in history. It was tyrannized by Soviet occupation twice, first after World War I and then following World War II, between which it experienced Nazi occupation and devastating Allied bombing that destroyed its infrastructure (all of which has since been rebuilt).

brownstonedotorg/articles/jordan-peterson-enemy-of-the-state/

[war: jan11](#) **individuals involved in the blockade have demanded that Azerbaijan establish state control over the Lachin corridor**

blockade is considered to be a violation of the [2020 Nagorno-Karabakh ceasefire agreement](#), which stipulates that Azerbaijan guarantee the security of people and cargo moving along the Lachin corridor in both directions.^[9]

The [Republic of Artsakh](#) is a [self-declared de facto state](#) also known as the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, which is populated by ethnic Armenians within Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan does not recognize the sovereign status of Artsakh and, since the [2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war](#), it no longer promises any special status or autonomy to its ethnically Armenian residents.^[37] The ongoing 2022 blockade of Artsakh is the second time Azerbaijan isolated the region from Armenia and is distinct from the other ongoing blockade of Artsakh (and Armenia) from Azerbaijan which began in 1988;^[38] that is, transportation between Artsakh and the rest of internationally-recognized Azerbaijan has been prohibited by Azerbaijan since 1988.

The current 2022 blockade is an extension of the 1988 blockade insofar as it isolates Artsakh from Armenia (its only connection with the outside world). [The first isolation of Artsakh](#) lasted for 4 years (August 1988 to May 1992) as part of the [First Nagorno-Karabakh War](#).^[39] During the winter of 1991–1992 Stepanakert, the capital of Nagorno-Karabakh was blockaded by Azerbaijani forces and many civilian targets in the city were intentionally bombarded by artillery and aircraft.^[40] The bombardment of Stepanakert and adjacent Armenian-held towns and villages during the blockade caused widespread destruction.

Because the Lachin corridor remains the only transportation route in and out of Artsakh,^[7] it is often described as an essential "lifeline" to Artsakh residents.^{[41][42][43][44]} In 2017, a second and faster highway was built between Artsakh and Armenia (the Vardenis–Martakert highway), but this alternative route has been closed since Azerbaijan took control of the Dadivank–Sotk section (in Kalbajar) during the [Second Nagorno-Karabakh War](#).^{[45][7]} Regular air transit in and out of Artsakh has also not existed since the [Stepanakert Airport](#) was closed in 1990 during the [First Nagorno-Karabakh War](#).^[42] The Artsakh government has attempted to re-open a commercial airport various times since it was reconstructed in 2011 but has been blocked by Azerbaijan, who warn that airplanes flying over Karabakh will be destroyed.^{[46][47]}

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022%E2%80%932023_blockade_of_the_Republic_of_Artsakh

markets, stats, crypto: owned so much of the tokens that they can't realistically even sell them because their would be no market

*[It] just **does not ascribe any value to holdings of dozens of illiquid cryptocurrency tokens**, where our holdings are so large relative to the total supply that our positions cannot be sold without substantially affecting the market for the token."*

So Bankman-Fried had \$5 billion lying around and he didn't... just... disappear?

He couldn't....Where would he go..

War, history, government: jan11 THE UK'S 83 MILITARY INTERVENTIONS AROUND THE WORLD SINCE 1945

Britain has deployed its armed forces for combat over 80 times in 47 countries since the end of the Second World War, in episodes ranging from brutal colonial wars and covert operations to efforts to prop up favoured governments or to deter civil unrest

The British military has used or threatened to use military force much more in the postwar world than is conventionally remembered or believed. *Declassified* has documented 83 interventions by the UK armed forces since 1945, in 47 different countries.

The most striking of the British uses of force have been the overt invasions or armed attempts to overthrow governments such as in British Guiana (now Guyana) in 1953, Egypt in the 1950s, Iraq in 2003 and Libya in 2011.

The brutal colonial counter-insurgency wars of the 1950s and 1960s – in Kenya, Malaya, Aden and Cyprus – involved the widespread use of torture and, often, pernicious operations to displace large numbers of people to control the local population.

In [Malaya](#) between 1948 and 1960, British forces herded hundreds of thousands of people into fortified camps, heavily bombed rural areas and resorted to extensive propaganda to win the conflict.

British [brutality](#) fighting 'Mau Mau' forces in Kenya demanding independence from the UK resulted in tens and perhaps hundreds of thousands of deaths, often from starvation in concentra **UK**

MILITARY INTERVENTIONS SINCE 1945

Conflict	Britain's role
2022-present: Ukraine war	UK military aids combat operations, 'retired' special forces and other Britons fighting there, large supply of UK arms
2016-19: Covert operations in	SAS and SBS forces advising on and fighting Islamic

Libya	State
2015–present: Yemen war	British military training, advising, arming Saudi air force operations bombing Yemen, and secret ground deployment of UK forces
2014–present: War against Islamic State	RAF aircraft and drone strikes in Syria and Iraq and some special forces ground operations
2013–22: Intervention in Mali	Initial deployment of SAS followed by support to French-led counter-terrorism mission
2012 -present?: Covert war in Somalia	SAS force countering al-Shabab terrorists and drone strikes
2011–18: Covert war in Syria	Operations in support of opposition forces
2011: War in Libya	Air strikes and covert ground operations to overthrow Muammar Gaddafi regime
2003–09: Invasion and occupation of Iraq	UK forces played secondary role to US in military operations
2001–21: Invasion and occupation of Afghanistan	UK deployed ground forces, playing secondary role to US in military operations following 9/11
2000: Intervention in Sierra Leone	Deployment of ground forces to counter Revolutionary United Front militants
1998– 99: War against Yugoslavia (Kosovo)	Bombing of Yugoslav forces and covert support to the Kosovo Liberation Army
1998: Bombing of Iraq	Four-day campaign in December by US and UK to strike Iraqi regime targets
1994: Deployment to Kuwait	Military deployment to deter Iraqi threat to Kuwait
1991–2002: Bombing of Iraq	Sporadic air strikes on government targets in US/UK proclaimed no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq
1990–91: Gulf war against Iraq	UK forces played secondary role to US in military operations to eject Iraq from Kuwait and defeat Saddam Hussein
1984–86: Covert operations in Soviet Union (Tajikistan/Uzbekistan)	Military operations to sabotage Soviet supply lines into Afghanistan
1980–88: Covert war in Afghanistan	Guerilla training, supply roles and arms deliveries in support of mujahideen forces fighting the Soviet occupation
1983: Covert operation in Belize	Deployment of forces to counter Guatemalan rebels
1982: Falklands war	War against Argentina over latter's attempt to capture the Falklands/Malvinas
1981: Covert deployment to The Gambia	SAS deployment to reverse a military coup
1980: Intervention in New Hebrides (Vanuatu)	Military deployment to restore order
1977: Intervention in British Honduras (Belize)	Military deployment to deter threat from Guatemala
1977: Deployment in Bermuda	Military deployment to quell unrest

1975-76: Covert war in Angola	Covert aid to UNITA rebels to overthrow MPLA government
1975-76: 'Cod war' with Iceland	Navy deployments to reinforce British fishing claims
1972-73: 'Cod war' with Iceland	Navy deployments to reinforce British fishing claims
1970-71: Intervention in Musandam peninsula	Special forces invaded the peninsula, claimed by Oman
1970: Intervention in Jordan	Military deployment to prop up King Hussein
1969-1998: Intervention in Northern Ireland	Military deployment to counter IRA and civil protests involving sectarian support to loyalist forces
1965-75: War in Oman (Dhofar)	Military deployment in support of regime against insurgents in Dhofar province
1969: Intervention in Anguilla	Military deployment to prevent independence
1968-73: Depopulation of Chagos Islands	Forcible removal of inhabitants
1968: Deployment to Bermuda	Military deployment to quell unrest
1967: Deployment to Mauritius	Military deployment to quell unrest
1967: Deployment to Hong Kong	Military deployment to suppress riots
1965: Deployment to Mauritius	Military deployment to quell unrest
1965: Deployment to Kenya	Naval deployment to counter possible coup attempt
1964-65: Deployment to British Guiana	Military deployment to quell unrest
1964: Intervention in Kenya	Military deployment to quell army mutiny
1964: Intervention in Tanzania	Military deployment to quell army mutiny
1964: Intervention in Uganda	Military deployment to quell army mutiny
1963-7: War in Aden (south Yemen)	Operations to suppress revolt against UK rule
1963-66: War in Borneo	Military deployment to counter Indonesian forces in support of Malaysia
1963: Deployment to Swaziland	Military deployment to break strike and civil unrest
1962-70: Covert war in Yemen	Covert operations to support insurgents against government
1962-63: Intervention in Brunei	Military deployment to suppress revolt against government
1962: Deployment to British Guiana (Guyana)	Military deployment to quell demonstrations
1962: Deployment to British Honduras (Belize)	Deployment to counter Guatemalan armed incursion
1961-73: War against Vietnam	UK provided counter-insurgency advice and arms to South Vietnam regime, deployed covert forces, and gave military intelligence to US operations
1961: Intervention in Kuwait	Intervention to counter alleged threat from Iraq to Kuwait
1961: Deployment to Zanzibar	Deployment to suppress riots

1960-61: War in Cameroon	Military campaign to counter insurgency in Southern Cameroons
1959: Deployment in Maldives	Landing of troops to counter the Gan islands secessionist riots
1959: Intervention in Nyasaland (Malawi)	Deployment to quell riots and uprising against British rule
1958-60: 'Cod war' with Iceland	Navy deployments to reinforce British fishing claims
1958: Intervention in Jordan	Military deployment to prop up regime
1958: Deployment in Bahamas	Military deployment to counter general strike
1957- 59: Covert war in Indonesia	Covert operation with US to support rebellion against government
1957-9: Intervention in Oman	War against rebels
1957: Deployment in British Honduras (Belize)	Reinforcement to counter Guatemalan claims to the territory
1956-62: Border war in Northern Ireland	Deployment of military to counter the IRA along the Northern Ireland/Ireland border
1956-59: War in Cyprus	War against insurgents
1956: Invasion of Egypt	Military intervention with France and Israel over Suez Canal
1955: Intervention in Buraimi Oasis	Military deployment to counter Saudi claims to the area
1953: Coup in British Guiana (Guyana)	Military deployment to overthrow government
1952-60: War in Kenya	Colonial war and 'resettlement' operations
1951-54: Egypt (Suez Canal zone)	Deployment to counter insurgency against British rule
1951: Iran blockade	Deployment of warships to blockade Abadan port after Iranian government nationalised oil operations
1950-3: Korean war	Major US-led war to support South Korea against the North
1950: Deployment to Singapore	Military deployment to suppress riots
1949-52: Covert war in Albania	Operations supporting guerillas fighting communist forces
1949: Deployment to Aqaba (Jordan)	Military deployment to deter threat from Israel
1948-60: War in Malaya	Colonial war and 'resettlement' operations
1948-52: Occupation of Eritrea	Military deployment and counter-insurgency
1948: Deployment to British Honduras (Belize)	Intervention to deter Guatemala from invading
1947: Deployment to Aden	Deployment to suppress riots
1946-52: Covert war in Baltic states	Operations supporting guerillas fighting Soviet forces

1945-48: War in Israel/Palestine	Military activities in aid of both Arab and Israeli forces, overall facilitating Israel's takeover of Palestine
1945-48: Covert war in Ukraine	Operations supporting guerillas fighting Soviet forces
1945-6: Intervention in Indonesia	Deployment to suppress Indonesian independence movement
1945-6: Intervention in Vietnam	Deployment to suppress Vietnamese independence movement
1944-9: Greek civil war	Military/covert operations to support Greek government

Covert wars

Covert military operations have been planned by Whitehall officials in numerous instances where their strategy would be unpopular at home or controversial abroad. British governments have if anything become less and less transparent about these covert operations over time.

The beginnings after the war were when UK forces sought to stir up opposition to emerging communist rule in Albania, Ukraine and the Baltic States in the late 1940s - operations which all failed to prevent these countries coming under communist control.

Covert wars continued in the 1950s in Indonesia - in an attempt to promote a rebellion against nationalist president Sukarno - and in the 1960s in Yemen - in a war to bog down the forces of Egypt's leader, Gamal Abdel Nasser, in which tens of thousands of people died.

In the 1980s, Margaret Thatcher's government executed Britain's largest postwar covert operation to date, in backing mujahideen warriors to counter the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

The strategy involved not only supplying arms and training for combat inside Afghanistan, but also the sabotage of Moscow's supply lines inside the then Soviet republics of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

British covert operations have recently proliferated again in view of the unpopular wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2011-13, Whitehall

planners secretly launched at least four covert wars involving special forces on the ground in [Libya](#), [Syria](#), [Somalia](#) and [Mali](#).

Overt intervention

Some of the UK's most brutal interventions have been with the US, notably the bombing of and occupation of Afghanistan after 2001, the UK's [supportive role](#) in Washington's near-destruction of Vietnam from the 1960s and the [forcible depopulation](#) of the Chagos Islands from 1968-73, to make way for a US military base in the Indian Ocean.

After Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, the UK acted as the US' junior partner in a ferocious bombardment of Iraq the following year that destroyed much of the country's civilian infrastructure. Anglo-American bombing of Iraq continued for a decade after the Gulf War until the 2003 invasion.

On several occasions, the British military has been used to counter threats to favoured allies from neighbouring countries, such as the [deployment](#) to Kuwait in 1994 to deter a threat from Iraq's Saddam Hussein and the [dispatch](#) of troops to Aqaba in Jordan in 1949 to fend off a territorial threat from Israel.

The UK intervened at least four times in British Honduras (which became independent as Belize in 1981) - in 1948, 1957, 1962 and 1977 - to deter Guatemala from its claims over the territory. The Falklands war of 1982 - after Argentina invaded the islands - was far from being the first time a Latin America state had claimed territory it saw as a relic of the colonial period.

Only a handful of these interventions might be regarded as truly benign. The UK's deployment of forces to Sierra Leone in 2000 prevented the vicious Revolutionary United Front taking control of the capital, Freetown.

Britain's involvement in the Korean war in the early 1950s - one of the most destructive conflicts of the past century - upheld the non-communist south of the country, and allowed a future South Korea to prosper.

But most of the UK military deployments have been to maintain colonial or postcolonial control of states and key resource interests, uphold British prestige or great power status, and demonstrate to the US - Whitehall's key ally - that London is, with Washington, still prepared to continue to rule the world by force.

Not included

The list of interventions is far from exhaustive. It is unlikely to have found all the British military deployments for combat since 1945. Further, it does not include mercenary operations by British personnel, often backed by Whitehall, or purely intelligence operations to overthrow governments.

It also excludes military involvement in international peacekeeping missions, relief activities and actions to evacuate UK nationals from countries. Finally, it does not include training and advisory military operations which, often linked to British arms exports, are another key way Whitehall officials try to maintain their global influence.

Britain's armed forces have a far more extensive base network than ever presented by the Ministry of Defence. New research by Declassified reveals the extent of this global military presence for the first time - as the government announces an extra 10% spending on defence.

tion camps.

War, Russia: jan11 **Using Ukraine as a Bloodied Pawn, written today**

Ted Galen Carpenter is senior fellow for defense and foreign policy studies at the Cato Institute. Carpenter served as Cato's director of foreign policy studies from 1986 to 1995 and as vice president for defense and foreign policy studies from 1995 to 2011.

U.S. and NATO officials routinely contend that assisting Ukraine in its war against Russia is a moral as well as a strategic imperative. Ukraine is

supposedly on the frontlines of a global struggle between democracy and freedom on one side and brutal authoritarianism on the other. That justification lacks credibility for two reasons. First, Ukraine itself is a corrupt, repressive autocracy, not a freedom-loving democracy, even if one uses the most flexible, expansive definition of "democracy." Second, the Russia-Ukraine war is a nasty turf fight over mundane stakes, not part of an existential global confrontation between good and evil.

It is hard to determine how much Western political leaders and their media mouthpieces actually believe their own moralistic propaganda. Some likely have drunk the Kool Aid, but others clearly have more practical (and less savory) reasons for wanting Washington to wage a proxy war against Russia.

However, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin may have inadvertently disclosed a broader, ignoble motive for the proxy war. An April 2022 statement that he issued in Poland at the end of his stealth visit to Kyiv emphasized that Washington's goal was not merely to help Ukraine repel Russia's invasion, but to "[weaken Russia](#)" to the point that it could no longer pose a threat to any other country. Achieving such an objective would indisputably require a prolonged war in Ukraine - regardless of the consequences to the Ukrainian people.

The goal in Afghanistan then, as it is in Ukraine now, was simply to harass and bleed Washington's adversary. Then, as now, there was little concern about the impact on the beleaguered inhabitants in the country serving as an arena for a proxy war - and surprisingly little concern about the wider geo-political ramifications.

War, history, middle east: jan11 **although this did happen, what the persn says is a an immediately knowable outright lie, don't need evidence: ". Tom Twetten, the number 2 official in the CIA's clandestine service during the 1980s, later admitted that US leaders had no postwar plan for Afghanistan."**

War, journal: jan11 **US now just openly admitting to training Ukrainians in their own country: "US to Begin Training Ukrainians on Patriot Missiles in Oklahoma Next Week"**

The Pentagon announced on Tuesday that the US will [begin training 100 Ukrainian soldiers](#) how to use Patriot missile defense systems as soon as next week on US soil at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

The US has been training thousands of Ukrainians how to use US-provided weapons at its bases in Germany and elsewhere in Europe but hasn't had similar training inside the US since Russia invaded Ukraine.

Russia strongly warned the US against providing the Patriots to Kyiv, saying the systems would become a target for Russia's armed forces. But like most Russian warnings, it was ignored, and the US continues to escalate military aid, most recently by pledging Bradley Fighting Vehicles for the first time [as part of an arms package worth over \\$3 billion](#).

History, holy roman empire, Germany: **jews, poland, most jews in eastern europe; nazi germany at its height composed almost all of europe; add: Spain was not allowed to join the newly created United**

Later the same year Franco met with Hitler [in Hendaye](#) to discuss Spain's possible accession to the [Axis Powers](#). The meeting went nowhere, but Franco did help the Axis—whose members [Italy](#) and [Germany](#) had supported him during the [Spanish Civil War](#) (1936–1939)—in various ways.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spain_during_World_War_II

The term "axis" was first applied to the Italo-German relationship by the Italian prime minister [Benito Mussolini](#) in September 1923, when he wrote in the preface to Roberto Suster's *La Germania Repubblicana* that "there is no doubt that in this moment the axis of European history passes through Berlin" (*non v'ha dubbio che in questo momento l'asse della storia europea passa per Berlino*).^[8] At the time, he was seeking an alliance with the [Weimar Republic](#) against [Yugoslavia](#) and [France](#) in the dispute over the [Free State of Fiume](#).^[9]

The term was used by [Hungary](#)'s prime minister [Gyula Gömbös](#) when advocating an alliance of Hungary with Germany and Italy in the early 1930s. ^[10] Gömbös' efforts did affect the Italo-Hungarian [Rome Protocols](#), but his sudden death in 1936 while negotiating with Germany in [Munich](#) and the

arrival of [Kálmán Darányi](#), his successor, ended Hungary's involvement in pursuing a trilateral axis.^[10] Contentious negotiations between the Italian foreign minister, [Galeazzo Ciano](#), and the German ambassador, [Ulrich von Hassell](#), resulted in a [Nineteen-Point Protocol](#), signed by Ciano and his German counterpart, [Konstantin von Neurath](#), in 1936. When Mussolini publicly announced the signing on 1 November, he proclaimed the creation of a Rome–Berlin axis.^[9]

Initial proposals of a German-Italian alliance

Italy under [Duce Benito Mussolini](#) had pursued a strategic alliance of Italy with Germany against France since the early 1920s.^[11] Prior to becoming head of government in Italy as leader of the [Italian Fascist](#) movement, Mussolini had advocated alliance with defeated Germany after the [Paris Peace Conference \(1919–1920\)](#) settled [World War I](#).^[11] He believed that Italy could expand its influence in Europe by allying with Germany against France.^[11] In early 1923, as a goodwill gesture to Germany, Italy secretly delivered weapons for the [Reichswehr](#), which had faced major disarmament under the provisions of the [Treaty of Versailles](#).^[11]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Axis_powers

stats, tech: jan10 the ozone layer continues to strengthen as a result of the montreal protocol in 1989--an international agreement to phase out Ozone Depleting Substances--projected to fully recover from aerosol damamge in 2066

By 2066, the Antarctic ozone hole is expected to reduce to its size in 1980, while the Arctic hole will do the same around 2045. Thinning around other areas of the globe should recover around 2040.

Beyond [CFCs](#), ozone-eating chemicals including halons, methyl chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and methyl bromide were once abundant in refrigerators, air conditioners, aerosols, solvents and pesticides.

These compounds attack ozone by releasing chlorine and bromine atoms that degrade ozone molecules in the stratosphere.

Since the substances were banned, declining concentrations of chlorine and bromine have helped to limit human exposure to harmful UV rays from the sun that can cause skin cancer, cataracts and suppress the immune system. -DW

"Thanks to a global agreement, **humanity has averted a major health catastrophe due to ultraviolet radiation pouring through a massive hole in the ozone layer,**" said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres last September 16, World Ozone Day.

War, markets: jan10 Roubini: More War Means More Inflation

War, journal: all major lies are for either military purposes or to force the population to do something for the greater good of the whole...jan10

Censorship, planet, war: jan10 Dr. Wallace Manheimer: Net-zero carbon policy will be the end of civilization

Dr. Manheimer holds a physics PhD from MIT and has had a 50-year career in nuclear research, including work at the Plasma Physics Division at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. He has published over 150 science papers. In his view, there is “certainly no scientific basis” for expecting a climate crisis from too much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere in the next century or so. **He argues that there is no reason why civilisation cannot advance using both fossil fuel power and nuclear power, gradually shifting to more nuclear power.**

Perhaps one of the best voices to cast doubt on an approaching climate crisis, suggests the author, is Professor Emeritus Richard Lindzen of MIT, one of the world’s leading authorities on geological fluid motions:

What historians will definitely wonder about in future centuries is how deeply flawed logic, obscured by shrewd and unrelenting propaganda, actually enabled a coalition of powerful special interests to convince nearly everyone in the world that CO₂ from human industry was a dangerous planet-destroying toxin. It will be remembered as the greatest mass delusion in the history of the world – that CO₂, the life of plants, was considered for a time to be a deadly poison.

While the Climate Always Has and Always Will Change, There Is no Climate Crisis

Wallace Manheimer

Abstract

The emphasis on a **false climate crisis** is becoming a tragedy for modern civilization, which depends on reliable, economic, and environmentally viable energy. The windmills, solar panels and backup batteries have none of these qualities. This **falsehood is pushed by a powerful lobby which Bjorn Lomborg has called a climate industrial complex**, comprising some scientists, most media, industrialists, and legislators. It has **somehow managed to convince many that CO₂ in the atmosphere, a gas necessary for life on earth, one which we exhale with every breath, is an environmental poison.** Multiple scientific theories and measurements show that there is no climate crisis. Radiation forcing calculations by both skeptics and

believers show that the carbon dioxide radiation forcing is about 0.3% of the incident radiation, far less than other effects on climate. **Over the period of human civilization, the temperature has oscillated between quite a few warm and cold periods, with many of the warm periods being warmer than today.** During geological times, it and the carbon dioxide level have been all over the place with no correlation between them.

ccsenetdotorg/journal/index.php/jsd/article/view/0/47745

[vaccine, health, stats, censorship: jan10](#) finally found a source on the mash thing. For some weird reason I haven't actually looked closely into it enough yet

A wealth of empirical evidence has accumulated in support of the premise that masking healthy people in community settings achieves no substantial reduction in levels of respiratory-virus transmission.

With regards to RCTs – the most robust type of evidence – a [review](#) of 14 such studies into the spread of influenza found that masks led to no significant reduction in risk of infection for neither the wearer nor others. As for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, a large RCT (often referred to as the '[Danish mask study](#)'), using appropriately-fitted and high-quality surgical masks, failed to realise any significant benefit for the wearer.

Multiple real-world comparisons of masked and unmasked geographical regions, have not delivered consistent support for the benefits of face coverings. There have been many regions where recorded infection rates were higher in areas with mask mandates as compared to those without, such as shown in this [comparison](#) of Scottish and English schools during the autumn 2021 term and a pre-post mandate [comparison](#) in Texas. Furthermore, a Spanish [study](#) evaluating the impact of mask requirements on primary schools concluded they had no significant effect on rates of viral transmission, and another [investigation](#) found that American states with compulsory-mask regulations did not realise significantly lower rates of viral transmission than states that did without such mandates. Also, a recent [Spanish study](#) that examined

over 300 people with covid-19 observed no association between risk of transmission and reported mask usage by their contacts.

Second, the virus is mainly spread by microscopic aerosols – not larger droplets – the former being far too small for masks to act as a barrier. Expert scientists have argued – despite some recent concerted efforts to censor their views – that cloth face coverings contain perforations that are far too big to act as a viral blockade and therefore ‘offer zero protection’. Furthermore, one study concluded that cloth face coverings can amplify the spread of infectious particles by acting as a ‘microniser’ transforming large droplets, which would ordinarily fall to the ground close to the person, into smaller, truly airborne ones.

Impedes children’s social development – Face-to-face interactions, and positive attachments to adult care givers, are essential for a child’s social development. Masks deny children access to facial expressions, a rich source of information crucial for their psychological maturation and the growth of emotional intelligence. Disturbingly, an Ofsted report, published in April 2022, described the negative impact of covid-19 restrictions on children, highlighting their inability to understand facial expressions.

Enables criminals to evade identification – Unsurprisingly, there have been reports that widespread mask wearing is making it more difficult for police forces to identify crime suspects.

hartgroupdotorg/masks-do-more-harm-than-good/

war, middle east: jan10 **northern iraq offensive, 2014**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American-led_intervention_in_Iraq_\(2014%E2%80%932021\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American-led_intervention_in_Iraq_(2014%E2%80%932021))

In June, Maliki accused unnamed regional countries, commanders and rival politicians of plotting the fall of Mosul, but has since remained quiet.

Nevertheless, Baghdad has pinned the blame on Gharawi. In late August, he was charged by the defense ministry with dereliction of duty. He is now awaiting the findings of an investigative panel and then a military trial. If found guilty, he could be sentenced to death. (Four federal police officers who served under Gharawi are also in custody awaiting trial, and could not be reached.) Parliament also plans to hold hearings into the loss of Mosul.

General Babakir Zebari was Gharawi's superior and chief of staff for Iraq's armed forces back in Baghdad. He agrees there were not enough men to defeat the jihadists. And Maliki had already rejected a chance to change that.

On June 7, Kurdistan President Massoud Barzani had offered to send Kurdish peshmerga fighters to help. The offer went all the way up to Maliki, who rejected it twice through his defense minister, according to Zebari.

United Nations and U.S. diplomats also attempted to broker an arrangement acceptable to Maliki, who remained suspicious of the Kurds' intent. Maliki insisted there were more than enough Iraqi forces. Barzani's office confirmed Kurdish offers of help were rejected.

On the afternoon of June 8, the Islamic State surged. More than 100 vehicles, carrying at least 400 men, had crossed to Mosul from Syria since the start of the battle.

Sleeper cells hiding in the city had been activated and neighbourhoods rallied to them, according to police and military.

And for now, Gharawi must take the blame for Mosul. Zebari believes that's unfair. "Gharawi was an officer doing a job, but his luck ran out just like many other officers," he said. "All of us have to shoulder some of the responsibility. Every one of us."

Two weeks ago in Baghdad, face unshaven, voice hoarse, Gharawi indicated a begrudging acceptance of his fate, whatever it might be.

"Maybe I'll be pardoned, maybe I'll be imprisoned, maybe I'll be hanged," he said.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-gharawi-special-report-idUSKCN0I30Z820141014>

A major result of [Saddam Hussein](#)'s defeat in the [Gulf War](#) (1991) and [Operation Provide Comfort](#) was the ultimate establishment of Kurdish control over their traditional homeland in northern Iraq, known as [Iraqi Kurdistan](#) and "South Kurdistan".

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Masoud_Barzani

Lt. General **Mahdi Sabeh Al-Gharrawi** is an [Iraqi](#) police officer, the former Commander of the [Iraqi Federal Police](#) in [Nineveh Province](#), and Lieutenant General of [Iraqi Army](#).

Gharawi, along with several other military leaders, was dismissed from his position by [Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki](#) on 17 June 2014 for failing in his "professional and military duty". His dismissal came a week after the fall of much of Northern Iraq to anti-government forces in the [2014 Northern Iraq offensive](#).^[1] He was sentenced to death by a [military tribunal](#).^[2]

After serving two years in prison, Gharawi was released on 1 August 2020.^[3]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahdi_Al-Gharrawi

On 4 June, the insurgents began their efforts to capture Mosul. The Iraqi army officially had 30,000 soldiers and another 30,000 federal police stationed in the city, facing a 1,500-member attacking force. The Iraqi forces' actual numbers were much lower due to [ghost soldiers](#), severely reducing combat ability.^[10] After six days of combat and

massive desertions, Iraqi soldiers received orders to retreat. The city of [Mosul](#), including [Mosul International Airport](#) and the helicopters located there, all fell under ISIL's control. An estimated 500,000 civilians fled from the city.

A former commander of the Iraqi ground forces, Ali Ghaidan, accused former Prime Minister [Nuri al-Maliki](#) of being the one who issued the order to withdraw from the city of Mosul.^[17]

Mosul remained under ISIL control for several years. Iraqi forces initiated an offensive on October 17, 2016, to retake the city; the [Battle of Mosul](#) ended in its liberation the following July.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fall_of_Mosul

The offensive resulted in 200,000 [Yazidi](#) civilians and 100,000 [Iraqi Christians](#) driven from their homes, [5,000 Yazidi men massacred](#), [5,000–7,000 Yazidi women enslaved](#), and a foreign [military intervention against the Islamic State](#).

The ISIL capture of Sinjar on 3 August was accompanied by [a massacre of thousands of Yazidi](#) men, the selling of women into slavery, and 200,000 civilians fleeing Sinjar, of whom 50,000 fled to [Mount Sinjar](#).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Iraq_offensive_\(August_2014\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Iraq_offensive_(August_2014))

tech: jan10 (this was released in response to china saying that it had discovered how to crack RSA encryption (or something like that))
the quantum computing problem: The quantum bits, or qubits, used in today's machines are highly unstable and only hold their quantum states for extremely short periods, creating "noise". As a result, "errors accumulate in the computer and after around 100 operations there are so many errors the computation fails," said Steve Brierley, CEO of quantum software company Riverlane.

[https://www.ft.com/
content/d64e45b4-692a-
429e-bc64-146303ec7fdf](https://www.ft.com/content/d64e45b4-692a-429e-bc64-146303ec7fdf)

Hype around quantum computing recedes over lack of practical uses

China claims to have made a major breakthrough but western experts say any commercial benefits are still years away

Many companies are racing to prove that today's quantum computers can perform tasks better than 'classical' machines © Adrien Nowak/Hans Lucas via Reuters

- [Hype around quantum computing recedes over lack of practical uses on twitter \(opens in a new window\)](#)
- [Hype around quantum computing recedes over lack of practical uses on facebook \(opens in a new window\)](#)
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[Richard Waters](#) in San Francisco

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Are today's rudimentary quantum computers already on the verge of significant feats beyond the reach of traditional computers? Or have their capabilities been exaggerated, as practical uses for the technology recede into the future?

These questions have been thrown into sharp relief in recent days by [a claim](#) from a group of Chinese researchers to have come up with a way to break the RSA encryption that underpins much of today's online communications.

The likelihood that quantum computers would be able to crack online encryption was widely believed a danger that could lie a decade or more in the future. But the 24 researchers, from a number of China's top universities and government-backed laboratories, said their research showed it could be possible using quantum technology that is already available.

The quantum bits, or qubits, used in today's machines are highly unstable and only hold their quantum states for extremely short periods, creating "noise". As a result, "errors accumulate in the computer and after around 100 operations there are so many errors the computation fails," said Steve Brierley, CEO of quantum software company Riverlane.

That has led to a search for more stable qubits as well as error-correction techniques to overcome the "noise", pushing back the date when quantum computers are likely to reach their full potential by many years.

The Chinese claim, by contrast, appeared to be an endorsement of today's "noisy" systems, while also prompting a flurry of concern in the cyber security world over a potentially imminent threat to online security.

By late last week, a number of researchers at the intersection of advanced mathematics and quantum mechanics had thrown cold water on the claim.

Brierley at Riverlane said it "can't possibly work" because the Chinese researchers had assumed that a quantum computer would be able to simply run a vast number of computations simultaneously, rather than trying to gain an advantage through applying the system's quantum properties.

Peter Shor, the American mathematician who first proposed a way for quantum computers to crack encryption, predicted that the inability to run all the computations at once meant it would take “millions of years” for a quantum computer to run the calculation proposed in the paper.

The Chinese research comes at a time when many companies working on the technology are in a race to prove that today’s “noisy” systems can reach so-called [quantum advantage](#) — the point at which a quantum computer can perform a useful task more efficiently than a traditional, or “classical”, machine, ushering in commercial use of the technology.

Four years ago, John Preskill, a professor of theoretical physics at the California Institute of Technology, predicted that quantum systems would start to outperform and might have commercial uses once they reached 50-100 qubits in size. But that moment has come and gone without quantum systems showing any clear superiority. IBM unveiled a 127-qubit computer more than a year ago, and last month announced that a new 433-qubit processor would be available in the first quarter of 2023.

These days, Preskill sounds more cautious. “I expect that for practical applications with significant business value we’ll have to wait for error-corrected fault-tolerant quantum computers,” he said, adding that this was likely to be “a ways off”. But he added that today’s systems already had scientific value.

One reason that hopes have retreated is that new ways have been found to program classical computers to handle tasks that were once thought to be beyond them.

This has pushed back the quantum frontier, delaying the moment when people building quantum systems can claim an advantage, said Oskar Painter, head of quantum hardware in the cloud computing division at Amazon, one of the tech companies that is building its own quantum computer. “They never finally could say, ‘This will be better,’” he said.

After years of rising expectations, the lack of practical uses for the technology has led some experts to warn of a potential “quantum winter” — a period when disappointment about a new technology leads to a waning of interest for a number of years. The term is borrowed from the AI “winters” of the 1970s and 1980s, when a

number of promising research avenues turned out to be dead ends, setting the field back for prolonged periods.

“People are worried it will be really harsh,” said Painter at Amazon Web Services. Like many in the field, though, he said that any short-term backlash was unlikely to hit long-term research funding. “I don’t think it will go away,” he added.

Receding hopes for early benefits from quantum computing have already contributed to a sharp fall in the stocks of a handful of companies that rode the wave of enthusiasm over the sector to go public since the middle of 2021.

Based on their peak share prices soon after they each went public, Arqit, IonQ, D-Wave and Rigetti reached a combined value of \$12.5bn. That has since fallen to \$1.4bn. Among the events to batter the quantum companies last year, IonQ was hit by a report from a short seller claiming its technology did not live up to its claims, while Rigetti founder Chad Rigetti was removed as CEO before quitting the company late in the year.

Part of the problem facing the sector has been an excess of “hype” about the technology, said Constantin Gonciulea, CTO of advanced technology at Wells Fargo. He compared the build-up of expectations around quantum to the crypto industry, as many non-experts have been drawn into the field and promises for the technology have far outgrown its potential in the near term.

Despite this, companies working on the first quantum machines and software still insist that practical uses of the technology are just around the corner — while continuing to carefully avoid giving too precise a prediction about exactly when that will be.

David Rivas, head of engineering and product at Rigetti, said that the company still believed it would reach quantum advantage when its computers have “a few hundred to a few thousand qubits”. Even if they can’t match the performance of today’s supercomputers, they will still be useful if they cost much less, or if they can operate faster or with more precision, he said.

For some quantum companies, the startling Chinese claim about online encryption was a sign that the technology’s big moment is drawing nearer. But for the doubters, the apparent impracticality of the research will serve as confirmation that quantum computing is

still an impressive science experiment rather than a practical technology.

Tech, war , china: jan10 The moment a quantum computer breaks RSA and other cryptography is obviously as massive advantage for the given country; convention computers could take up to millions of years to breaks an RSA encrypted message. RSA encryption is the bedrock of online, secure communication, but will have to look into it more.

The moment a quantum computer breaks RSA and other cryptography solutions is known as Q-Day among researchers, and it could be anything from a few years to decades away. The significant advantage this would give to a government was cited by some experts as a reason to doubt the Chinese researchers, arguing that if they really had cracked 2048-bit RSA, the Chinese government would have classified the research.

Markets, inflation: jan10 **Goldman embarks on biggest cost-cutting drive since financial crisis**

China, censorship, stats: jan10 full spectrum dominance, of your life: china's new social credit score

<https://twitter.com/JamesMelville/status/1612431837145563136>

crypto, tech: jan10 Coinbase Fires 20% Of Workforce; CEO Warns Of "Dark Times" In Crypto

war, china, vaccine: jan10 China Halts Visas Over 'Unfair' Japan, S.Korea Covid Travel Restrictions (both saying citizens from each respective country cannot enter china, or vise versa)

Starting last week Japan and South Korea halted the issuing of tourist visas for anyone coming from China, which Beijing slammed as "unacceptable" and "unscientific". The communist-run country has just fully opened up its borders after three years of lockdown.

according to the [BBC](#), the most stringent measures remain for Chinese passengers entering South Korea. "At Seoul's Incheon International airport - the only South Korean airport still allowing flights from China - **arrivals are met by military personnel in personal protective equipment**," the report says.

Nikkei Asia has confirmed that China's retaliatory measures have [quickly taken effect](#):

*The Chinese Embassy in South Korea earlier in the day said it has **stopped issuing short-term visas for family visits, business, tourism, medical and other matters**.*

Japanese travel agencies, meanwhile, told Nikkei that they can no longer apply for business visas or other visas for China for non-humanitarian purposes.

And the spat is directly influencing how Chinese are planning their first post-Covid travel itineraries, with CNBC relating the following from [interviews](#):

"When China said they were opening the borders in January, all my friends said they're going to Japan and Korea," said Bonnie.

But they couldn't get visas, she said. "So they are now going to Thailand."

*Rein said Chinese travelers are **now headed to Singapore and Thailand because "both countries are welcoming us."***

one South African man living in China said "I know that many patriotic Chinese colleagues and friends **will avoid those countries for now because the**

practice of only testing passengers arriving from China is discriminatory."

"The actions can be adjusted if South Korea cancels its discriminatory entry ban against China," the Chinese embassy in Seoul [clarified](#) in a statement.

Markets, crypto, stats: jan10 Recursive trades between Grayscale trust and the Three Arrows Capital hedge fund allegedly inflated assets and fees, according to open letter from the Gemini president...

The letter followed a Jan. 2 appeal on Twitter to Silbert directly, in which the Gemini co-founder [said Genesis owed Gemini \\$900 million](#), accusing the CEO of hiding "behind lawyers, investment bankers, and process."

*As a standalone business, it's inconceivable that Genesis would have lent so much money to 3AC given the low quality of the collateral that 3AC posted. Genesis made these loans because it was one piece of a much larger scheme designed to enrich the greater DCG enterprise. More specifically, Genesis was willing to recklessly lend to 3AC because 3AC was using the money for the kamikaze Grayscale net asset value (NAV) trade - **a recursive trade that ballooned the AUM of the Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (ticker: GBTC) and, as a consequence, the fees earned by its sponsor**, Grayscale Investments, LLC (Grayscale), a wholly owned subsidiary of DCG.*

*Genesis booked these interactions with 3AC as bona fide, collateralized loans. It is becoming clear, however, that this was not the case at all. In reality, 3AC was acting as a mere conduit for Genesis, allowing it to enter into what were effectively swap transactions of bitcoin for GBTC shares with the Grayscale Trust. In this transaction, Genesis was betting that shares would be worth more than bitcoin in the future. The 3AC "loan" was the bitcoin leg of the swap and the 3AC "collateral" was the GBTC leg of the swap. **3AC was a mule shuttling the assets between the parties, and as a result Genesis ended up owning massive risk.***

Up until 2021, Genesis won this zero-sum trade because the GBTC shares were worth more than bitcoin. Starting in 2021, however, Genesis lost this trade because the shares were worth less than bitcoin. Normally, all things being equal, the gains and losses would cancel each other out. There is no free lunch. In other words, Genesis would participate in both the wins and losses. Astonishingly, however, it appears that Genesis never participated in the wins because it apparently always ceded them - the GBTC share premium - to 3AC.

This meant that Genesis only participated in the losses, turning what would otherwise have been a zero-sum trade into a negative-sum trade. Crazy town.

Disturbingly, not only did Genesis not close out 3AC's position when the NAV trade inverted (something any rational, independently operated business would have done), it continued to lend to 3AC on attractive terms and accept GBTC as collateral. For Grayscale, this had the desired effect of keeping GBTC shares from being sold into the market, which would have depressed the share price and further widened the discount to NAV. But for Genesis, this had the undesired effect of keeping its risk position open and allowing it to grow.

cointelegraphdotcom/news/cameron-winklevoss-there-is-no-path-forward-as-long-as-barry-silbert-remains-ceo-of-dcg

tech, china, war: JAN10 Apple is Broadcom's largest customer, accounting for about 20% of Broadcom's revenue, amounting to about \$7 billion last year

war, Erdogan: jan10 Turkish media reported that out of 124,000 undocumented refugees, 68,000 of them were Afghans in 2022.

War, energy, markets: jan10 Oil Price Hikes Push Many to Resort to Burning Wood to Stay Warm in Iraqi Kurdistan

<https://www.rudaw.net/english/kurdistan/090120231>

tech, censorship, war, iran: jan10 Meta Oversight Board Agrees to Allow 'Death to Khamenei' Posts

War, Erdogan, middle east: jan10 Turkey frequently strikes Kurdish military targets in northern Syria. It has also conducted three full-blown invasions of the area since 2016, seizing territory from Kurdish-led forces.

[Turkey](#) claimed Sunday that it had killed, injured or arrested several members of [Kurdish-led forces](#) in northern Syria, amid its sustained threats of a full-scale operation in the area.

War, media: jan10 Mexico Says 3,586 Soldiers Involved in Operation to Capture El Chapo's Son Ovidio Guzman

War, Africa: jan10 Rwanda Says It Can Take No More Refugees From DR Congo

War, history: Chagos Islands dispute: Three years before independence, the UK severed the Chagos Islands from the rest of Mauritius so it could lease Diego Garcia to the US for military use.

Mauritius, a British colony until its independence in 1968, claims the remote

Mauritius, a British colony until its independence in 1968, claims the remote Chagos Islands as its own territory.

Three years before independence, the UK severed the Chagos Islands from the rest of Mauritius so it could lease Diego Garcia to the US for military use.

The British government then forcibly deported 2,000 Chagossians. A newly published book by the barrister and historian Philippe Sands KC, *The Last Colony*, chronicles how the British shut down the islands' plantations and cut off food supplies, with families told they had no option but to leave by ship by 27 April 1973 or slowly starve.

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War, Erdogan: jan10 NATO Chief: Sweden Has Done What's Needed to Join Alliance

In May, Sweden and neighboring Finland dropped their longstanding policies of military nonalignment and applied to join NATO following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The move requires the unanimous approval of the alliance members. Turkey has held up the process while pressing the two Nordic countries to crack down on groups it considers to be terrorist organizations and to extradite people suspected of terror-related crimes.

Last month, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said Sweden was not even "halfway" through fulfilling the commitments it made to secure Ankara's support. His remarks came after a Swedish court ruled against extraditing a man wanted by Turkey for alleged links to a 2016 failed coup.

Sweden's Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson has said that Sweden has lived up to its commitments and that the decision now "lies with Turkey."

"Legislation banning participation in terrorist organizations is being implemented, and Turkey is known to name individuals it wants extradited. It is also known that Sweden has legislation that is clear and means that it is up to the courts. We also do not extradite Swedish citizens to any country."

There was no immediate reaction from Turkey to the comments by Stoltenberg and Kristersson.

The parliaments of 28 NATO countries have already ratified Sweden and Finland's membership. Turkey and Hungary are the only members that haven't yet given their approval.

War, energy, markets: jan10 norway production 2022 in slightly mre detail; still concise

“Only rarely have we seen so much oil and gas produced on the Norwegian shelf as was the case last year – and only rarely have we seen such significant investment decisions,” the NPD said in its yearly overview of the production and investment activity on the Norwegian Continental Shelf.

In 2022, Norway’s gas production was 9 billion standard cubic meters higher compared with 2021. Gas now accounts for more than half of production from the shelf, the Norwegian authority said.

“Production is extremely high, and it will continue to grow in the years to come. Gas production is projected to remain at around 2022 levels for the next four to five years,” the directorate said.

The consistently high production has been the result of the higher number of producing fields, as several start-ups took place last year, as well as older fields producing longer and producing more than previously expected, according to the NPD.

Natural gas production in Norway, which supplies around 25% of the gas consumed in the EU and the UK, was expected to rise by 8 percent in 2022 compared to 2021, government estimates showed at the end of 2022.

In the summer of 2022, Norway’s authorities approved applications from operators [to boost production](#) from several operating gas fields, to allow higher gas production as its key partners, the EU and the UK, scrambled for gas supply ahead of the winter.

<https://www.npd.no/en/facts/news/general-news/2023/investments-for-the-future-on-the-shelf/>

war, journal: jan10 **Barents sea: looks like this location is prime area for a turf war with russia**



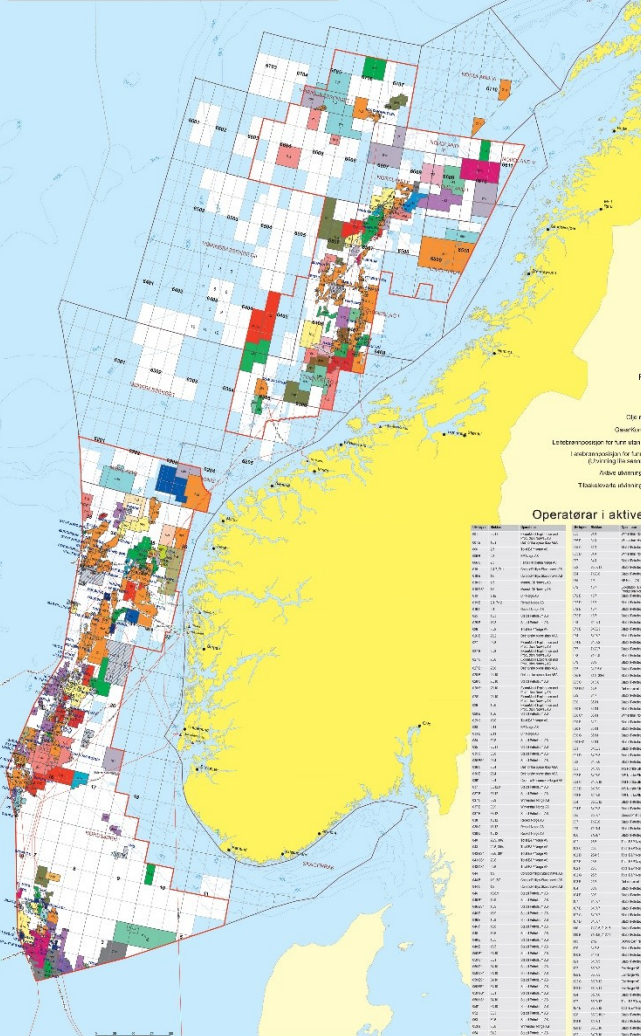
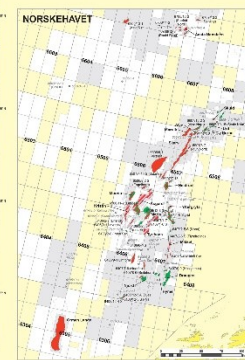
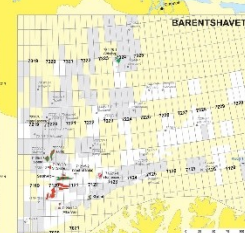
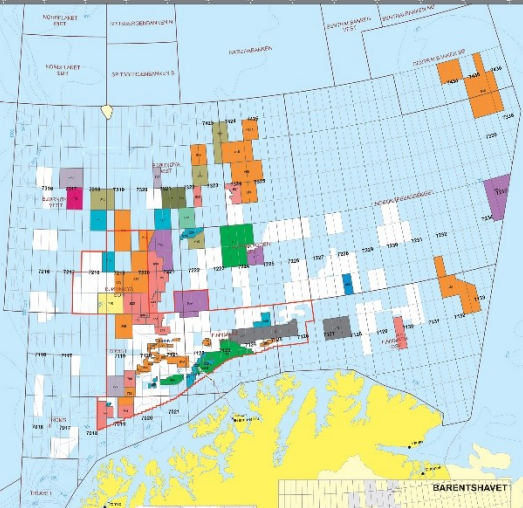
War, stats, energy:

The Norwegian continental shelf is the area over which Norway exercises sovereign rights as defined by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; The area of the shelf is four times the area of Norway mainland and constitutes about one-third of the Europe continental shelf; It is rich in petroleum and gas

and it is the base of the petroleum economy of Norway.



MINISTRIJAS
DIREKTORĀTĒ



Operatører i aktive utvinningsløyve per 20.06.2016

[illegible]

History, Erdogan, war: jan10 **turk greece fight is being staged on cypris, somehting I just learned now: makes sense...**

The island of Cyprus was split after a 1974 Turkish invasion spurred by a brief coup engineered by the military then ruling Greece. Turkey does not recognise Cyprus's Greek government. Attempts over the years to broker peace between the two sides have failed.

Stats, sanctions, energy, Russia: jan10 **mar.13: Sanctions have frozen around \$300 bln of Russian reserves, FinMin says**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/ukraine-crisis-russia-reserves-idUSL5N2VG0BU>

war: jan10 **A Russian merchant ship whose owner has allegedly carried weapons for the Kremlin turned off its transponder last month before surreptitiously docking at South Africa's largest naval base, where it delivered and loaded unidentified cargoes, according to witnesses and a senior U.S. official.**

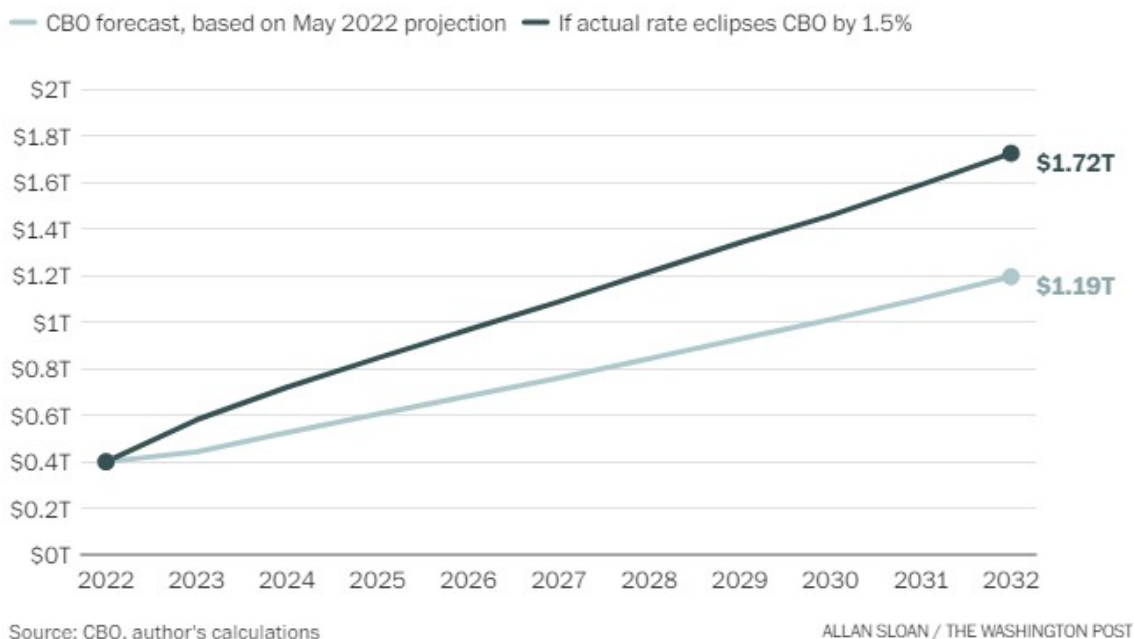
A senior U.S. official said Washington was concerned by the support the South African armed forces provided to the Lady R, including allowing it to enter and move cargo at a naval base while its automatic identification system was switched off.

Government, inflation, markets: jan10 **gov interest payments: Total interest payments on the government's debt could come in at nearly \$580 billion this fiscal year, up from \$399 billion in recently-completed fiscal 2022. That would bring the total interest cost in 2023 to roughly the same level as the federal government's 2022 budget for Medicaid.**

The publicly held national [debt hit 100 percent of GDP](#) and is heading toward the record of 106 percent set in 1946, at the conclusion of the worst war in human history. Within a decade the US [faces trillion-dollar deficits](#) for as far as government analysts can budget. By mid-century the Congressional Budget Office [expects the debt/GDP ratio](#) to run around 185 percent.

Check? Please.

The projected annual cost, in trillions of dollars, of interest payments on U.S. government debt each fiscal year.



[washingtonpostdotcom/business/2022/10/13/debt-interest-rates/](https://www.washingtonpostdotcom/business/2022/10/13/debt-interest-rates/)

war, stats: jan10 **2022 deadliest year for Palestinians in the West Bank since ...2005 according to UN Mideast Envoy, Tor Wennesland**

Moroccans, like other Arab nations, are following the news with alarm, especially following the swearing-in of Israel's new extremist government of Benjamin Netanyahu and his far-right fascist ilk – the likes of Bezalel Smotrich and Itamar Ben-Gvir.

"Ben-Gvir, a [settler](#) in the [Israeli-occupied West Bank](#), has faced charges of [hate speech](#) against Arabs and was known to have a portrait in his living room of Israeli-American [terrorist Baruch Goldstein](#), who massacred 29 Palestinian Muslim worshippers and wounded 125 others in [Hebron](#), in the 1994 [Cave of the Patriarchs massacre](#). He removed the portrait after he entered politics.^[3] He was also previously convicted of supporting a terrorist group known as [Kach](#), which espoused [Kahanism](#), an extremist [religious Zionist](#) ideology.^[6]"

His father was born in Jerusalem to [Iraqi Jewish](#) immigrants.

Ministry of National Security (Israel)

is the statewide law enforcement agency and oversees the [Israel Police](#), the [Israel Prison Service](#) and the [Israel National Fire and Rescue Services](#), [Israel Border Police](#), National Headquarters for the Protection of Children on the Internet, [National Authority for Community Safety](#) and The Authority for Witness Protection.

Until 1995 the position was known as Minister of Police.

Israel wants to normalize with the Arabs and tap into their massive markets and economic largesse without having, in return, to relinquish its military Occupation or grant Palestinians basic freedoms. Politically engaged Arab masses understand this well, and are growingly mobilizing against their governments' betrayal of Palestine.

War, china: [jan10](#) **add: Lieutenant General James Bierman, commanding general of the Third Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) and of Marine Forces Japan confirms what merkel recently revealed in a a rare interview in december snce her departure as chancellor f germany in an interview with the financial times: Re: improtant breakdown on the ukraine-russia-germany situation: in rare interview since her 16 years chancellor of germany, angela merkel gives her opinion on ukraines minks agreement, surprising commentators by saying that the 2014 minsk agreements were just meant to buy timne for ukraine to arm themselves for an eventually war**

Bierman said that the US and its allies in Asia were emulating the groundwork that had enabled western countries to support Ukraine's resistance to Russia in preparing for scenarios such as a Chinese invasion of [Taiwan](#).

"Why have we achieved the level of success we've achieved in Ukraine? A big part of that has been because after Russian aggression in 2014 and 2015, we earnestly got after preparing for future conflict: training for the Ukrainians, pre-positioning of supplies, identification of sites from which we could operate support, sustain operations," he said.

"We call that setting the theatre. And we are setting the theatre in Japan, in the Philippines, in other locations."

Bierman's unusually frank comparison between the Ukraine war and a potential conflict with China comes as Beijing has dramatically increased the scale and sophistication of its military manoeuvres near Taiwan in recent years. Japan and the Philippines are also [intensifying defence co-operation](#) with the US in the face of mounting Chinese assertiveness.

Shinzo Abe, the former prime minister of Japan and a serving member of the House of Representatives, was assassinated on 8 July 2022 while speaking at a political event outside Yamato-Saidaiji Station in Nara City, Nara Prefecture, Japan.[3][4][5] While delivering a campaign speech for a Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) candidate, he was shot from behind at close range by a man with a homemade firearm.[1] Abe was transported by a medical helicopter to Nara Medical University Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.[6]

Censorship, government: jan10 **The Oregon Department of Education has released a document advising schools to keep their gender identities at school secret from**

“Parent and family support is the goal when supporting gender expansive students, but may not be possible in all situations,” according to the document.

“Schools should refer to their current policies when there may be a safety concern. To the extent possible, schools should refrain from revealing information about a student’s gender identity, even to parents, caregivers, or other school administrators, without permission from the student.”

Markets, war, energy: jan10 **Black Sea Shipping Rates Jump 20%**

Last year, the Lloyd’s of London market declared the Black Sea and Sea of Azov waters a high risk zone before Russia’s invasion of Ukraine began on Feb. 24, meaning even ships entering areas not close to Ukraine required an additional war policy.

Known as breach cover, the policy has to be renewed every seven days.

Industry sources say breach war policies for hull insurance are up by 20%-25% since the end of last year, which translates into additional costs of tens of thousands of dollars a day for a single voyage, and they are expected to rise further.

“For shipments going in and out of Russia you will find premiums going up. It could easily rise by 50% (from the end of last year) to reflect the cost of capital from not being reinsured,” another marine insurance source said.

The rates are calculated as a percentage of the value of a ship. Ships values vary from around \$20 million for older vessels to over \$100 to \$250 million for ultra modern tankers and liquefied natural gas (LNG) vessels.

The cost of transporting crude oil from non-Russian Black Sea ports is estimated at \$80,000 a day for the smaller aframax tankers, slightly firmer from the end of last year. Average tanker freight costs for aframaxes from Russian ports are quoted at \$180,000 to \$200,000 a day. The freight rates exclude the additional war risk premiums plus other expenses such as fuel.

Rises in separate cargo war insurance are also set to hit traders.

Around 90% of the war risk market for marine and aviation is insured in Lloyd’s SOLYD.UL and the wider London commercial insurance market, industry sources say. hellenicshippingnewsdotcom/black-sea-shipping-rates-rise-as-reinsurers-cut-cover/

war : [jan10](#) **sweden reinstitutes
conscription....wow**

war, middle east, history: [jan9](#) **Syria's Arab League membership was suspended in November of 2011 following the start of the Syrian war, and it has been excluded ever since.; syria peace talks being framed with the key word "normalization"**

war: [jan9](#) **US Department of State spokesman, Ned Price: We do not support countries upgrading their relations or expressing support to rehabilitate the brutal dictator Bashar al-Assad. We urge states to carefully consider the Assad regime's atrocious human rights record**

The spokesman's remarks are in reference to the first high-level [meeting](#) since 2011 between Turkish and Syrian defense officials that took place in Moscow in December 2022.

The tripartite talks were described as "constructive" and tackled various topics of shared concerns, including the refugee crisis and the effort to fight [terrorist-designated](#) groups in Syria.

[Erdogan, war: jan9](#) **Erdogan remarks ahead of moscow-syria-turkish meeting, the first of it's kind since 2011:As Russia-Turkey-Syria, we have launched a process through the meeting of our intelligence chiefs and defense ministers in Moscow. Then, God willing, we will bring our foreign ministers together trilaterally. Then, depending on the developments, we will come together as leaders."**

[Markets: jan9](#) **"This Could Get Very Ugly, Very Quickly": In His Latest Dismal Forecast, Mike Wilson Sees Stocks Tumbling Another 22%**

[Housing, markets: jan9](#) **Australia's Property values record fastest rate of Downturn in History**

[Inflation, markets, government, stats: jan9](#) **Michael A. Gayed, CFA: "Powell will go down in history as having destroyed more wealth than all other Fed Chairs combined.**

twitterdotcom/leadlagreport/status/1612465219917193216?

Sanctions, war, energy: jan9 **German Economic Institute: "The risk of a gas shortage in the 2022/23 winter season is no longer as present as it was in the summer of 2022, and energy prices have also retreated since then. However, they remain at a high level and production disruptions cannot be ruled out,"**

<https://www.investing.com/news/economy/around-40-of-german-companies-expect-output-decline-in-2023--iw-institute-2975631>

markets, stats, inflation: jan9 **Annual food inflation jumped to 13.3% in December, up from 12.4% in November, according to the latest monthly report from trade body the British Retail Consortium**

war: jan9 **crazy stuff going in brazil right now, historic their saying, former president in hospital for unknown reason**

crypto, censorship, stats: jan9 **largest shareholder (34.22%) of South Korean cryptocurrency exchange Bithumb, found dead mysteriously in front of his house in the early morning; Mr. Park Mo was found dead after an investigation had been launched against him for embezzlement and stock price manipulation.**

Mr. Park Mo, the vice president of Vidente — the largest shareholder of South Korean Cryptocurrency exchange Bithumb — was reportedly [found](#) dead in front of his home at 4:00 am local time on the morning of Dec. 30.

Prior to his death, Mr. Mo had been named as a primary suspect in an investigation launched by South Korean prosecutors for his alleged

involvement in the embezzling funds at Bithumb-related companies, as well as manipulating stock prices.

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/bithumb-s-largest-shareholder-executive-found-dead-following-allegations-of-embezzlement>

crypto, markets, stats: jan9 4 crypto billionaires dead in the span of a month. Just before, and during the FTX collapse, wall street silver, 1:33am, today

Russian billionaire Vyacheslav Taran is the latest crypto entrepreneur to have died under mysterious circumstances after his helicopter crashed in good weather.

According to original reports from the *Monaco Daily News*, both Taran and the helicopter's 35-year-old pilot died after the aircraft crashed around 1pm on November 25, near the resort town of Villefranche-sur-Mer after taking off from Lausanne in Switzerland.

Taran was travelling in a single-engine Eurocopter EC130 (Airbus H130) operated by Monacair. The billionaire's death was subsequently confirmed by the [Russian Embassy in Paris](#) on Monday.

Another unidentified passenger was scheduled to join Taran on the flight, but they cancelled at the last minute, according to local news sources.

The Deputy Public Prosecutor of Nice, who visited the scene of the crash said that the fault of an as of yet unidentified third party could not yet be ruled out.

Taran was the co-founder of trading and investment platforms Libertex and Forex Club. His company, Forex Club was stripped of its license in Russia in 2018 for allegedly ripping off investors, according to a report by *Life*, a pro-Russian media outlet.

ADVERTISEMENT

Life's official website claimed that Taran, "has many dissatisfied clients and enemies in Russia, who could well get him abroad".

The suspicious deaths of Russian oligarchs

Taran's name joins a growing list of Russian oligarchs with ties to Vladimir Putin who have all died in seemingly suspicious circumstances this year.

Less than two weeks ago, cryptocurrency entrepreneur Tiantian Kullander, the co-founder of Amber Group, who was just 30 years old and widely regarded to be in "good health" died unexpectedly in his sleep from unknown causes. Sudden death during sleep in healthy 30-year-olds is statistically uncommon.

Another wealthy Russian businessman to die in peculiar circumstances was Ivan Pechorin. Pechorin was Putin's top manager for developing Russia's vast Arctic resources. On September 10 his body was discovered after he reportedly fell off the side of a boat in waters close to Russky Island.

Earlier this year, 67-year-old oil magnate Ravil Maganov "fell from a window" at a Moscow hospital. His company Lukoil had criticised the war in Ukraine.

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55-year-old Sergey Protosenya was found dead in Spain. His body was discovered alongside his wife and daughter who were found dead in their beds with axe wounds. Protosenya was the deputy chairman of Novatek, the largest independent natural gas producer in Russia.

Newspaper editor Vladimir Sungorkin, 68, suffered a stroke and suffocated while on his way to lunch. Oil billionaire Alexander Subbotin, 52, was found dead in a shaman's house after he died from a "drug-induced heart attack".

Subbotin allegedly went to the shaman's home "in a state of severe alcoholic and drug intoxication" a day before his death, reported Russian news outlet *TASS*.

Bill Browder, an American-born British financier who was once the largest foreign portfolio investor in Russia, told *Newsweek* that people should automatically "assume the worst" any time they see "a wealthy Russian dying in suspicious circumstances."

"There has been enough empirical evidence of assassinations organised by the Kremlin or business rivals in Russia, to make it likely that these were murders and not suicides and other explanations that have been bandied about by the Russian authorities," Browder added.

Taran's wife pens an open letter

The deceased billionaire's wife, Olga Taran has since released an open letter urging journalists to stop spreading "lies" that suggested her husband was linked to the shady business dealings of Russian elites.

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"The Ukrainian news website UNIAN.net published a story that my husband allegedly was a billionaire and was involved in money laundering for Russian elites and on top of that, they claimed him to be a Russian spy," she wrote.

"I urge all Western journalists who cite UNIAN.net to stop spreading the lies (Will Steward and Rachael Bunyan from Daily Mail, Aliki Kraterou from The Sun). My children have already been bullied because of these accusations and I am concerned for their safety," she added.

Markets, inflation, censorship, stats: [jan9](#) **Used-Car Prices Record "Largest Annualized Decline In Series' History" (chgart basically looks the exact same as m2 money supply--many charts do it seems; this straight up, then straight down pattern)**

War, Russia: [jan9](#) **escalation: Nikolai Patrushev, seen as a likely successor to putin, and secretary of the Security Council of Russia since 2008, the top official defense board for the country, says: "The events in Ukraine aren't a clash between Moscow and Kiev. It's a military confrontation of NATO, first of all the US and Britain, with Russia. Fearing a direct engagement, NATO instructors push Ukrainian men to certain death,"**

"The events in Ukraine aren't a clash between Moscow and Kiev. **It's a military confrontation of NATO, first of all the US and Britain, with Russia.** Fearing a direct engagement, NATO instructors push Ukrainian men to certain death," he said in a fresh interview with state-owned newspaper aif.ru.

"We are not at war with Ukraine because we can't have hatred for ordinary Ukrainians by default," he stressed. He then presented Russian and Ukrainian heritage and closely bound up together, according to [state media](#):

"Get this: the Ukrainian language is one of the official languages in Crimea. Ukrainian cultural centers, Ukrainian folk song and dance groups continue to exist in many cities. A considerable number of people in the south of the Far East regard Ukrainian culture as their own, given a large proportion of migrants from the times of Stolypin," he said, referring to Pyotr Stolypin, a prime minister of the Russian Empire in the early 1900s, who oversaw a resettlement policy.

"The sooner the people of Ukraine realize that the West is using them to wage a war on Russia, the more lives will be saved," Patrushev added. "Many have realized that long ago, but they are afraid to say that publicly out of fear of reprisals. It's not a part of the West's plans to save someone's life to the

detriment of its enrichment and other ambitions. Even so, the Americans, the British and other Europeans often create an illusion that they protect civilization from barbarians."

Rome, history, stats: **Cloaca Maxima**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloaca_Maxima

rome, history, fall of rome: Classical antiquity:the period of cultural history between the 8th century BC and the 5th century AD centred on the Mediterranean Sea, comprising the interlocking civilizations of ancient Greece and ancient Rome known as the Greco-Roman world.

Conventionally, it is taken to begin with the earliest-recorded [Epic Greek](#) poetry of [Homer](#) (8th–7th-century BC), and continues through the [emergence of Christianity](#) (1st century AD) and the [fall of the Western Roman Empire](#) (5th-century AD). It ends with the decline of classical culture during [late antiquity](#) (250–750), a period overlapping with the [Early Middle Ages](#) (600–1000). Such a wide span of history and territory covers many disparate cultures and periods. *Classical antiquity* may also refer to an idealized vision among later people of what was, in [Edgar Allan Poe](#)'s words, "the glory that was Greece, and the grandeur that was Rome".^[3]

This Greco-Roman cultural foundation has been immensely influential on the language, politics, law, educational systems, [philosophy](#), science, warfare, poetry, historiography, ethics, rhetoric, art and architecture of the modern world. Surviving fragments of classical culture led to a revival beginning in the 14th century which later came to be known as the [Renaissance](#), and various [neo-classical](#) revivals occurred in the 18th and 19th centuries.

[Late antiquity](#) saw the rise of [Christianity](#) under [Constantine I](#), finally ousting the [Roman imperial cult](#) with the [Theodosian decrees](#) of 393. Successive invasions of [Germanic tribes](#) finalized the [decline of the Western Roman Empire](#) in the 5th century, while the [Eastern Roman Empire](#) persisted throughout the [Middle Ages](#), in a state called the Roman Empire by its citizens, and labeled the [Byzantine Empire](#) by later historians.

Many writers have attempted to put a specific date on the symbolic "end" of antiquity with the most prominent dates being the deposing of the last [Western Roman Emperor](#) in 476,^{[17][18]} the closing of the last [Platonic Academy](#) in Athens by the [Eastern Roman Emperor Justinian I](#) in 529,^[19] and the [conquest of much of the Mediterranean](#) by the new [Muslim](#) faith from 634 to 718.^[20] These Muslim conquests, of Syria (637), Egypt (639), Cyprus (654), North Africa (665), Hispania (718), Southern Gaul (720), Crete

(820), and Sicily (827), Malta (870) (and the sieges of the Eastern Roman capital, First Arab [Siege of Constantinople \(674–78\)](#) and Second Arab [Siege of Constantinople \(717–18\)](#)) severed the economic, cultural, and political links that had traditionally united the classical cultures around the Mediterranean, ending antiquity (see [Pirenne Thesis](#)).^[20]

The original Roman Senate continued to express decrees into the late 6th century, and the last Eastern Roman emperor to use [Latin](#) as the language of his court in Constantinople was emperor [Maurice](#), who reigned until 602. The overthrow of Maurice by his mutinying Danube army under [Phocas](#) resulted in the Slavic invasion of the Balkans and the decline of Balkan and Greek urban culture (leading to the flight of Balkan Latin speakers to the mountains, see [Origin of the Romanians](#)), and also provoked the [Byzantine-Sasanian War of 602–628](#) in which all the great eastern cities except Constantinople were lost. The resulting turmoil did not end until the [Muslim conquests](#) of the 7th century finalized the irreversible loss of all the largest Eastern Roman imperial cities besides the capital itself. The emperor [Heraclius](#) in [Constantinople](#), who emerged during this period, conducted his court in Greek, not Latin, though Greek had always been an administrative language of the eastern Roman regions. Eastern-Western links weakened with the ending of the [Byzantine Papacy](#).

The Eastern Roman empire's capital city of [Constantinople](#) was left as the only unconquered large urban center of the original Roman empire, as well as being the largest city in Europe. Yet many classical books, sculptures, and technologies survived there along with classical Roman cuisine and scholarly traditions, well into the Middle Ages, when much of it was "rediscovered" by visiting Western crusaders. Indeed, the inhabitants of Constantinople continued to refer to themselves as Romans, as did their eventual conquerors in 1453, the [Ottomans](#). (see [Rûm](#) and [Romaioi](#).) The classical scholarship and culture that was still preserved in Constantinople were brought by refugees fleeing its conquest in 1453 and helped to spark the [Renaissance](#) (see [Greek scholars in the Renaissance](#)).

Ultimately, it was a slow, complex, and graduated change in the socio-economic structure in [European history](#) that led to the changeover between Classical antiquity and Medieval society and no specific date can truly exemplify that.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classical_antiquity

rome, history, stats: add this to roman engineering, forgot

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pliny_the_Elder

tech, rome, stats: jan9 **roman concrete was self-healing, according to paper by MIT professor of civil and environmental engineering Admir Masic, former doctoral student Linda Seymour '14, PhD '21, and four others.**

The authors examined the chemical composition and nanostructure of the ancient Roman concrete samples and discovered that the lime clast gave concrete the ability to self-heal. Whenever a crack is formed, the white chunks react with water, causing the recrystallization of calcium carbonate and, eventually, the closing of the crack.

<https://interestingengineering.com/innovation/19-greatest-inventions-of-the-roman-empire-that-helped-shape-the-modern-world>

betyter link here

<https://news.mit.edu/2023/roman-concrete-durability-lime-casts-0106>

history, stats, rome: jan9 **roman engineering was actually better portrayed by their sanitation systems, something that would be lost to civilization for**

Romans were very knowledgeable when it came to civil engineering. But their talent wasn't limited to building large structures like the Colosseum or roadways. While it may seem less visually impressive, their engineering excellence is highlighted by their [sewage and sanitary plumbing systems](#).

These consisted of a mixture of masonry, early concrete, and in some circumstances, lead piping.

The drainage pipes were connected and flushed regularly, with the water running off streams. Romans also used covered gutter systems and public bathrooms, ensuring the streets were clear of human waste. This improved the aesthetics of large population centers and drastically improved public health.

With the fall of the Western Roman Empire, the ability to build and maintain these structures was rapidly lost, with many post-Roman nations in Europe regressing hundreds of years in terms of sanitation. They would only develop similar systems over a thousand years later.

Some systems, like the *Cloaca Maxima* in Rome, would continue to be used up to the modern day.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_aquaeductu

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_Roman_engineering

fall of rome, history, markets, Germany, holy roman empire: **Roman Dolaucothi Gold Mines in Wales: ancient Roman surface and underground mines located in the valley of the River Cothi, near Pumsaint, Carmarthenshire, Wales, said be important for showing advanced Roman technology.**

They were closely involved in exploiting [gold](#) resources such as those at [Dolaucothi](#) in south west [Wales](#) and in north-west Spain, a country where [gold mining](#) developed on a very large scale in the early part of the first century AD, such as at [Las Medulas](#).

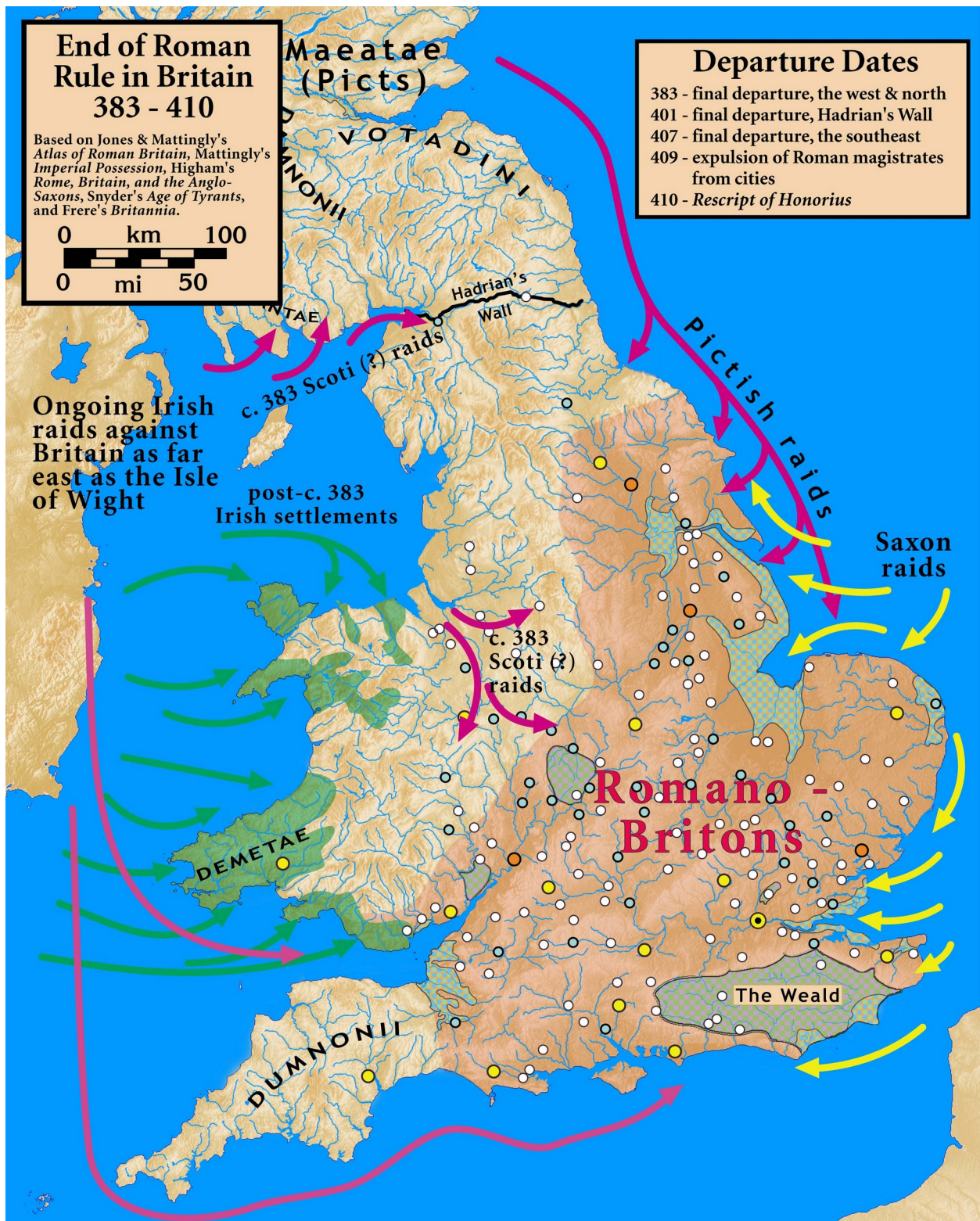
End of Roman Rule in Britain 383 - 410

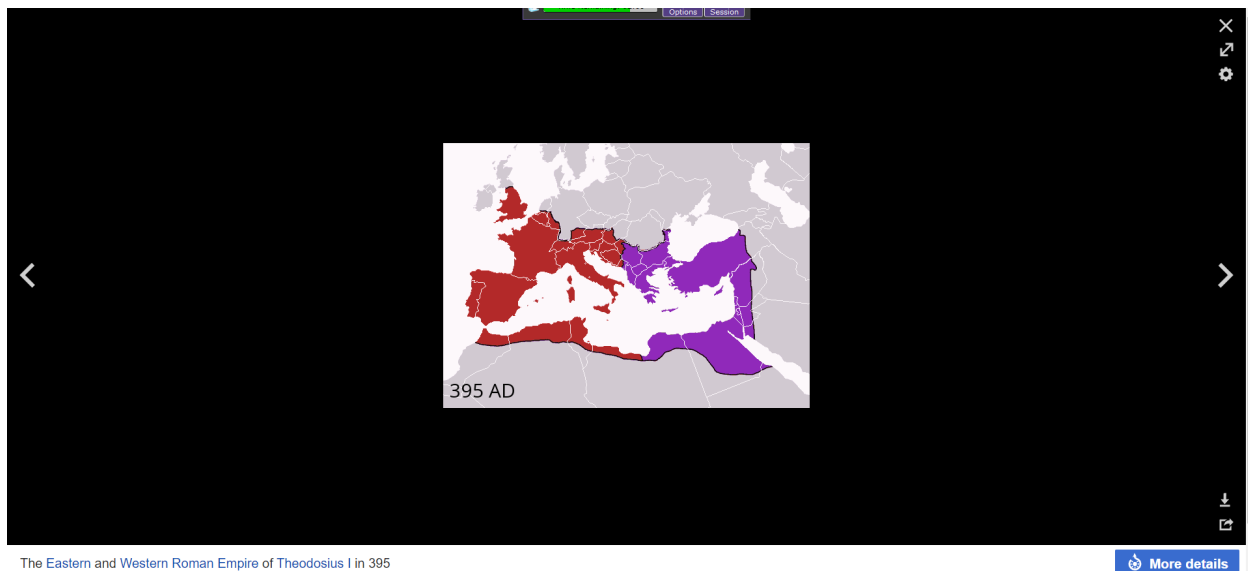
Based on Jones & Mattingly's *Atlas of Roman Britain*, Mattingly's *Imperial Possession*, Higham's *Rome, Britain, and the Anglo-Saxons*, Snyder's *Age of Tyrants*, and Frere's *Britannia*.

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Departure Dates

- 383 - final departure, the west & north
- 401 - final departure, Hadrian's Wall
- 407 - final departure, the southeast
- 409 - expulsion of Roman magistrates from cities
- 410 - *Rescript of Honorius*





80 of the 100 most common words in English [are Germanic in origin](#).

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/german/similarities-between-german-and-english/>

the Anglo-Saxon period denotes the period in Britain between about 450 and 1066, after [their initial settlement](#) and up until the [Norman Conquest](#).^[2] The early Anglo-Saxon period includes the creation of an [English nation](#), with many of the aspects that survive today, including regional government of [shires](#) and [hundreds](#). During this period, [Christianity](#) was established and there was a flowering of literature and language. Charters and law were also established.^[3] The term *Anglo-Saxon* is popularly used for the language that was spoken and written by the Anglo-Saxons in England and southeastern Scotland from at least the mid-5th century until the mid-12th century. In scholarly use, it is more commonly called [Old English](#).^[4]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Saxons>

The **Danes** were a [North Germanic](#) tribe inhabiting southern [Scandinavia](#), including the area now comprising Denmark proper, [Yorkshire](#), and [the Scanian provinces](#) of modern-day southern Sweden, during the [Nordic Iron Age](#) and the [Viking Age](#). They founded what became the [Kingdom of Denmark](#). The [name of their realm](#) is believed to mean "[Danish March](#)", viz. "the [march](#) of the Danes", in [Old Norse](#), referring to their southern border zone between the [Eider](#) and [Schlei](#) rivers, known as the [Danevirke](#).

The Danes first appear in written history in the 6th century with references in Jordanes' [Getica](#) (551 AD), by [Procopius](#), and by [Gregory of Tours](#). They spoke [Old Norse](#) (*dǫnsk tunga*), which the Danes shared with the people in Norway and Sweden and later in Iceland and the Faroe Islands.^[1] In his description of [Scandza](#), [Jordanes](#) says

that the **Dani** were of the same stock as the *Suetidi* ("Swedes") and expelled the [Heruli](#) and took their lands.

In the Nordic Iron Age, the Danes were based in present-day Denmark, the southern part of present-day Sweden, including [Scania](#), and in [Schleswig](#), now Northern Germany.

From around 800 AD, the Danes began a long era of well-organised raids across the coasts and rivers of Europe. Some of the raids were followed by a gradual succession of Danish settlers and during this epoch, large areas outside Scandinavia were settled by the Danes, including the Danelaw in England and countryside and newly established towns in Ireland, the Netherlands and northern France. In the early 11th century, King [Cnut the Great](#) (died 1035) ruled the extensive [North Sea Empire](#) for nearly 20 years, consisting of Denmark, England, Norway, southern Sweden and parts of northern Germany.^[3]

During the 10th century the royal seat of the Danes was moved from Lejre to [Jelling](#) in central Jutland, marking the foundation and consolidation of the Kingdom of Denmark.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danes_\(Germanic_tribe\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danes_(Germanic_tribe))

Danes ([Danish](#): *danskere*, pronounced [ˈtænskeɐ]) are a [North Germanic ethnic group](#) and [nationality](#) native to [Denmark](#)^{[27][28][29][30][31][32]} and a modern [nation](#) identified with the country of Denmark.

Under the 14th century king [Olaf II](#), Denmark acquired control of the [Kingdom of Norway](#), which included the territories of [Norway](#), [Iceland](#) and the [Faroe Islands](#). Olaf's mother, [Margrethe I](#), united Norway, Sweden and Denmark into the [Kalmar Union](#).^[37]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danes>

"Old Saxony" is the original homeland of the [Saxons](#). It corresponds roughly to the modern German states of [Lower Saxony](#), eastern part of modern [North Rhine-Westphalia](#) state ([Westphalia](#)), [Nordalbingia](#) ([Holstein](#), southern part of [Schleswig-Holstein](#)) and western [Saxony-Anhalt](#) ([Eastphalia](#)), which all lie in northwestern Germany

The Migration Period

350 to 550 AD was a migration period in Europe. In the seventh century the Frisian Empire extended from the coastal areas of north Belgium to southern Denmark. They controlled much of the North Sea trade routes from Friesland to England, Frankia, Scandinavia and northwestern Russia. A 'Magna Frisia' (Great-Friesland) consisted of a long narrow strip of land along the North Sea, from the Swin River in Belgium to the Weser River in Germany. The Saxons were their neighbors to the north and east, the Franks were in the south and the Anglo-Saxons in the west across the North Sea. Since the conversion to

Christianity of the Franks under Clovis the Frisians had become their major enemy. About 450 AD Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Frisians crossed the North Sea and established the Anglo-Saxon empire known as England. The Frisians colonized what became the county of Kent in southeast England.

https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~emty/family/Events_Before_King_Egbert-Beginning_in_Europe.html

The **Roman conquest of Britain** was the conquest of the island of [Britain](#) by occupying [Roman](#) forces. It began in earnest in AD 43 under Emperor [Claudius](#), and was largely completed in the southern half of Britain by 87 when the [Stanegate](#) was established. Conquest of the far north and Scotland took longer with fluctuating success.

Even after [Hadrian's Wall](#) was established as the border, tribes in Scotland and northern England repeatedly rebelled against Roman rule and forts continued to be maintained across northern Britain to protect against these attacks.^[14]

In common with other regions on the edge of the empire, Britain had enjoyed diplomatic and trading links with the Romans in the century since [Julius Caesar's expeditions in 55 and 54 BC](#), and Roman economic and cultural influence was a significant part of the British late pre-Roman [Iron Age](#), especially in the south.

Between 55 BC and the 40s AD, the *status quo* of tribute, hostages, and [client states](#) without direct military occupation, begun by [Caesar's invasions of Britain](#), largely remained intact. [Augustus](#) prepared invasions in 34 BC, 27 BC and 25 BC

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_conquest_of_Britain

The principal enemies of Roman Britain were the Picts from the Scottish Highlands, Frisians, Angles, and Saxons. To deal with these groups, the Romans appointed a special Count of Saxon Shores, which included most of the east coast of England. For many years these "Saxons" were beaten off, but when the Roman empire itself was invaded by barbarians, Roman troops in Britain were called home and left the island at the mercy of the invaders. At first the Britons fought the Saxons, the Gaels and Picts, but Britain soon broke up into many small independent kingdoms.

https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~emty/family/Events_Before_King_Egbert-Beginning_in_Europe.html

The early Anglo-Saxon period covers the history of medieval Britain that starts from the end of [Roman rule](#). It is a period widely known in European history as the [Migration Period](#), also the *Völkerwanderung*^[23] ("migration of peoples" in [German](#)). This was a

period of intensified [human migration](#) in Europe from about 375 to 800.^{[24][b]} The migrants were [Germanic tribes](#) such as the [Goths](#), [Vandals](#), [Angles](#), [Saxons](#), [Lombards](#), [Suebi](#), [Frisii](#), and [Franks](#); they were later pushed westwards by the [Huns](#), [Avars](#), [Slavs](#), [Bulgars](#), and [Alans](#).^[25] The migrants to Britain might also have included the Huns and [Rugini](#).^{[26]:123–124}

Until AD 400, [Roman Britain](#), the province of *Britannia*, was an integral, flourishing part of the [Western Roman Empire](#), occasionally disturbed by internal rebellions or barbarian attacks, which were subdued or repelled by the large contingent of [imperial troops](#) stationed in the province. By 410, however, [the imperial forces had been withdrawn](#) to deal with crises in other parts of the empire, and the [Romano-Britons](#) were left to fend for themselves in what is called the post-Roman or "[sub-Roman](#)" period of the 5th century.^[27]

Härke and Michael Wood estimate that the British population in the area that eventually became Anglo-Saxon England was around one million by the start of the fifth century;^[36]^[42] however, what happened to the Britons has been debated.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Saxons>

Roman Britain

Roman Britain was the period in [classical antiquity](#) when large parts of the island of [Great Britain](#) were under [occupation](#) by the [Roman Empire](#). The occupation lasted from AD 43 to AD 410.^{[1][2]} During that time, the territory conquered was raised to the status of a [Roman province](#).

[Julius Caesar invaded Britain](#) in 55 and 54 BC as part of his [Gallic Wars](#).^[3] According to Caesar, the [Britons](#) had been overrun or culturally assimilated by [Belgic tribes](#) during the [British Iron Age](#) and had been aiding Caesar's enemies. The [Belgae](#) were the only Celtic tribe to cross the sea into Britain, for all other Celtic tribes this land was unknown.^[4] He received tribute, installed the friendly king [Mandubracius](#) over the [Trinovantes](#), and returned to [Gaul](#). Planned invasions under [Augustus](#) were called off in 34, 27, and 25 BC. In 40 AD, [Caligula](#) assembled 200,000 men at the [Channel](#) on the continent, only to have them gather seashells (*musculi*) according to [Suetonius](#), perhaps as a symbolic gesture to proclaim Caligula's victory over the sea.^[5] Three years later, [Claudius](#) directed four legions to invade Britain and restore the exiled king [Verica](#) over the [Atrebates](#).^[6] The Romans defeated the [Catuvellauni](#), and then organized their conquests as the Province of Britain. By 47 AD, the Romans held the lands southeast of the [Fosse Way](#). Control over Wales was delayed by reverses and the effects of [Boudica's uprising](#), but the Romans expanded steadily northward.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Britain

https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/romans/questions_01.shtml

media, censorship: jan9 Middle school art teacher
arrested after overdosing on fentanyl in front of
students at New Jersey school

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/art-teacher-frank-thompson-arrested-fentanyl-overdose-students-westfield-new-jersey/>

markets, housing, government: jan9 SNB: Payment to government skipped only second time in 116 years

Unlike other central banks, the SNB is a publicly traded joint-stock company, with about half the shares held by public-sector institutions and the rest by companies and private individuals. Earnings from the SNB's operations do not influence monetary policy. Final results are due on March 6.

Swiss central bank posts \$143 billion loss, the largest in its 116-year history (yeah, because they turned themselves into a hendge fund while using credit suisse (swiss credit, in english) as their trading department, ie, inventing money and loaning it to credit suisse (swwiss credit) for them to then turn into highly leveraged etf's (in a rough, probably slightly wrong, nutshell))

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/01/09/swiss-national-bank-posts-record-143-billion-loss.html>

stats, war, middle east, islam, censorship: **Saudi blogger, Raif al-Badawi hit with 50 lashes a week for twenty weeks in 2014**

Rights activists say Saudi authorities are using Badawi's case as a warning to others who think to criticise the kingdom's powerful religious establishment from which the ruling family partly derives its authority.

London-based Amnesty International said he would receive 50 lashes once a week for 20 weeks. The US, a close ally of Saudi Arabia, has called on authorities to cancel the punishment.

Despite international pleas for his release, Badawi, a father of three, was brought from prison by bus to the public square on Friday and flogged on the back in front of a crowd that had just finished midday prayers at a nearby mosque. His face was visible and, throughout the flogging, he clenched his eyes and remained silent, said the witness.

The witness, who also has close knowledge of the case, said the lashing lasted about 15 minutes.

Badawi has been held since mid-2012 after he founded the Free Saudi Liberals blog. He used it to criticise the kingdom's influential clerics who follow a strict, conservative interpretation of Islam known as Wahhabism, which originated in Saudi Arabia.

He was originally sentenced in 2013 to seven years in prison and 600 lashes in relation to the charges, but after an appeal the judge stiffened the punishment. Following his arrest, his wife and children left the kingdom for Canada.

Rights groups argue that the case against Badawi is part of a wider crackdown on freedom of speech and dissent in Saudi Arabia since the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings. Criticism of clerics is seen as a red line because of their prestige in the kingdom, as well as their influential role in supporting government policies.

According to Amnesty the charges against Badawi mention his failure to remove articles by other people on his website. He was also accused in court of ridiculing Saudi Arabia's morality police.

In a statement after the flogging Amnesty called it a "vicious act of cruelty" and said Badawi's "only 'crime' was to exercise his right to freedom of expression by setting up a website for public discussion".

First detained on apostasy charges in 2008, Badawi was released after a day of questioning.^[12] He was prevented from leaving Saudi Arabia, and both his and his wife's bank accounts were frozen in 2009.^[13] The family of Badawi's wife subsequently filed a court action to forcibly divorce the couple on grounds of Badawi's alleged apostasy. On 17 June 2012, he was arrested on a charge of "insulting Islam through electronic channels",^[2] and the following December he was also cited for apostasy, a conviction which carries an automatic death sentence.^{[14][15]} However, Badawi was confirmed to be a Muslim after reciting the [Shahada](#) in court, and also stated that people should have the right to choose their faith. [Human Rights Watch](#) stated that Badawi's website had hosted material criticizing "senior religious figures".^[15] Badawi had also suggested that [Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University](#) had become "a den for terrorists."^[16]

Following the 2012 arrest, [Amnesty International](#) designated Badawi a [prisoner of conscience](#), "detained solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression", and said: "Even in Saudi Arabia where state repression is rife, it is beyond the pale to seek the death penalty for an activist whose only 'crime' was to enable social debate online".^[17] Calling for the government to drop the charges, Human Rights Watch stated: "The charges against him, based solely to Badawi's involvement in setting up a website for peaceful discussion about religion and religious figures, violate his right to freedom of expression".^[2] Moroccan human rights activist [Kacem El Ghazzali](#) also criticized Saudi Arabia authority.

Charged with "setting up a website that undermines general security", "ridiculing Islamic religious figures", and "going beyond the realm of obedience", Badawi appeared

before a district court in [Jeddah](#) on 17 December 2012.^[1] The judge referred the charge of [apostasy](#) to a higher court, saying he "could not give a verdict in a case of apostasy."^[18] On 22 December, the General Court in Jeddah found merits in the apostasy charges.^[1] And then it referred the case back to the lower court, as the latter is said to require the wisdom of higher court to try apostasy.^[19]

On 30 July 2013, Saudi media reported that Badawi had been sentenced to seven years in prison and 600 [lashes](#) for founding an [Internet forum](#) that "violates Islamic values and propagates liberal thought". The court also ordered the website closed.^[20]

Sentence increased[\[edit\]](#)

On 26 December 2013, Badawi's wife Ensaf Haidar told [CNN](#) a judge had ruled that her husband should go before a high court for the apostasy charge which would result in a death penalty if convicted.^[21] On 7 May 2014, Badawi's sentence was increased to 1000 lashes, 10 years in prison, and a fine of [SRIs](#) 1,000,000 (equal to about [US\\$](#)267,000 at the time), for "insulting Islam".^{[22][23]} In mid-January 2015, the case was passed to the Saudi Supreme Court for review.^{[24][25][26]} On 1 March 2015, Badawi's wife told reporters that judges in Saudi Arabia's criminal court wanted to retry him for apostasy, and that if found guilty he would be sentenced to death.^{[27][28]}

History, Africa, stats: **Benin city, nigeria: The city was the most important settlement of the Edo Kingdom of Benin, which flourished during the 13th to the 19th century. It held important trade relations with Portugal during the last centuries before being captured, sacked and burnt in 1897 by a British punitive expedition**

A Portuguese captain described the city in 1691:"Great Benin, where the king resides, is larger than [Lisbon](#); all the streets run straight and as far as the eye can see. The houses are large, especially that of the king, which is richly decorated and has fine columns. The city is wealthy and industrious. It is so well governed that theft is unknown and the people live in such security that they have no doors to their houses". This was at a time when theft and murder were rife in [London](#).^{[14][15]}

https://www.persee.fr/doc/cea_0008-0055_1965_num_5_18_3035

war, Africa: jan9 **Relations between Mali and its West African neighbours have been strained since Goita led a coup against elected President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita in August 2020**

middle east, stats, media, war: jan9 **Taliban Insists Ban on Women From Afghan Schools and Universities Is 'Not Permanent'**

war, sanctions, energy, Russia, markets: jan9 **Norway Replaces Russia as Germany's Top Gas Supplier**

Norway became Germany's single-largest natural gas supplier in 2022, overtaking Russia, as total German gas imports dropped by 12.3% compared to 2021, the German Federal Network Agency, Bundesnetzagentur, [said](#) on Friday.

Norway provided 33% of the gas Germany imported last year, followed by Russia, whose share fell to 22% for last year, compared to a 52% share in 2021, said the German regulator.

Last year, Russia started gradually cutting gas supply via the Nord Stream pipeline to Germany in June until shutting down the pipeline in early September, claiming an inability to repair gas turbines for the pumping stations due to Western sanctions.

The lack of gas deliveries from Russia was partly compensated for by additional imports, including from the Netherlands, Belgium, and Norway, the German network agency said today.

Europe's biggest economy also saved a lot of gas in 2022, partly due to household saving and to industrial production curtailments due to soaring gas prices.

According to Bundesnetzagentur, Germany's natural gas consumption dropped by 14% in 2022 compared to the average consumption for the past four years. Industrial demand fell by 15% compared to the average for the past four years. Between October and December, industrial gas consumption fell by 23%, and consumption by private consumers and businesses was 21% below the previous years.

As supply from Russia fell and then stopped in early September, Germany started looking at importing LNG and began construction of regasification terminals to be able to welcome cargoes. The first such terminal, a floating LNG import terminal, [officially opened](#) at the end of 2022 at Wilhelmshaven on Germany's North Sea coast.

Earlier this week, Germany [welcomed the first tanker](#) carrying LNG at the newly opened LNG import terminal at Wilhelmshaven, with the cargo arriving from the Calcasieu Pass export facility in the United States.

By Charles Kennedy for Oilprice.
m

Stats, history, Russia: jan9 **Russian society has a strong undercurrent of mysticism, with as much as a fifth of the country said to have visited a psychic.**

Yevgeny Alexandrov, the chairman of the Russian Academy of Sciences' commission on pseudoscience, has [long criticized](#) the rise of these beliefs in the nation, and the commission was formed to deal with that.

taskandpurposedotcom/news/pentagon-russia-psychic-weapons/

censorship: jan9 **nsa spying**

Surveillance operations by the NSA greatly expanded after the 9/11 attacks in 2001, and the phone calls of hundreds of millions of Americans have been tracked by the government since then, [according](#) to the American Civil Liberties Union.

In 2013, The Guardian first [reported](#) that the NSA was collecting the telephone records of tens of millions of Americans. It was later revealed that the source of the information was NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden.

The [report](#) was followed by further reports that the NSA was tapping directly into the servers of nine internet firms, including Facebook, Google, Microsoft and Yahoo, to track online communication in a programme known as Prism.

Up until that point, intelligence officials publicly stated that the NSA never knowingly collected information on Americans. After the

programme's exposure, American officials argued that the spying had played a crucial role in fighting domestic extremism.

War, sanctions: jan9 [Venezuelan embassy run by opposition in US closes after Guaido ouster](#)

War, stats, Africa: jan9 [US airstrikes in Somalia rose by 30% in 2022, military times](#)

According to data compiled by the Long War Journal, a project of the hawkish Foundation for the Defense of Democracies think tank, US Africa Command launched at least 15 airstrikes in Somalia in 2022, up from 11 airstrikes the previous year.

US airstrikes in Somalia initially dropped under President Biden, with many of the 2021 strikes [being launched in January](#), during the final days of the Trump administration. According to the Long War Journal, AFRICOM launched 45 airstrikes in 2020 and 59 in 2019, which was a record high for US operations in Somalia.

But in 2022, Biden ordered the deployment of up to 500 troops in Somalia and stepped up airstrikes as the US-backed Mogadishu-based government began an offensive against al-Shabaab. There was heavy fighting on the ground during the final months of 2022, when many US airstrikes took place.

War, stats: jan9 **a sign of the times: antiwar posts message on top of page about ww111 and congress approving 112 billion in funding so far, not even one year into the conflict**

<https://perma.cc/PLF5-U6V9>

Russia, war: jan9 [Russian Military Says "Retaliation" Strike Killed Over 600 Ukrainian Soldiers, ukraine denies casualty count](#)

The Russian military says it has conducted a major strike on Ukrainian forces in retaliation for the [New Year attack](#) on a Russian barracks in Makiivka, Donetsk which marked one of the single deadliest days for Russian forces, and which set off a firestorm of criticism against the top chain of command.

Russia's Defense Ministry (MoD) said Sunday that it **eliminated over 600 Ukrainian troops in a "retaliation operation"** in direct response to the "criminal attack" of a week ago. The MoD identified that the operation was conducted against the Ukrainian-held city of Kramatorsk in the Donbass. Photos are emerging from the site, but Ukrainian media is denying Moscow's claims of hundreds killed.

*The Ukrainian government, as well as a handful of Western journalists on the ground and pro-Ukraine media outlets, are **disputing that there were any large-scale casualties from strikes on Kramatorsk...***

Last week's Makiivka barracks attack may have been Russia's **single biggest loss of the war** and was reportedly carried out by the Ukrainians using **US-supplied HIMARS missile systems**.

Markets: jan9 [Morgan Stanley: After A Chaotic 2022, The Rest Of The World Will Outperform US Stocks](#)

Censorship: jan9 [AGs Slam White House Over Multiple Examples Of Big Tech Collusion To Censor Dissent](#)

Censorship, islam: **According to an email so-signed by Hamline president Fayneese S. Miller, respect for Muslim students "should have superseded academic freedom."**

In response to the firing, **an Islamic art historian wrote an essay defending López Prater** and demanding that the university's board investigate the matter. An associated petition has received over 2,800 signatures.

"I'm like, 'This can't be real,'" she said. "As a Muslim and a Black person, I don't feel like I belong, and I don't think I'll ever belong in a community where they don't value me as a member, and they don't show the same respect that I show them."

The image shown by López Prater is contained in one of the earliest Islamic illustrated histories of the world, "A Compendium of Chronicles," written by Rashid-al-Din during the 14th century. **It's shown regularly in art history classes**, and depicts a crowned Angel Gabriel pointing at the Prophet Muhammad and delivering the first Quranic revelation.



According to Christine Gruber, professor of Islamic Art at the University of Michigan who wrote the essay defending López Prater, the image is a "masterpiece of Persian manuscript painting."

[S]imilar paintings have been on display at places like the Metropolitan Museum of Art. And a [sculpture](#) of the prophet is at the Supreme Court.

Dr. Gruber said that showing Islamic art and depictions of the Prophet Muhammad have become more common in academia, because of a push to "decolonize the canon" — that is, expand curriculum beyond a Western model. - NYT

China, vaccine, health, war: China reopens borders to tourists after three years of Covid closure jan9

China has reopened its borders to international visitors for the first time since it imposed travel restrictions in March 2020.

Incoming travellers will no longer need to quarantine - marking a significant change in the country's Covid policy as it battles a surge in cases.

They will still require proof of a negative PCR test taken within 48 hours of travelling.

The move has been welcomed by many eager to reunite with family.

Iran, war, middles east, stats: jan9 How General Soleimani Kick-Started The Multipolar World

The term **Axis of Resistance** ([Persian](#): محور مقاومت, [romanized](#): *mehvar-e moqâvemat*, [Arabic](#): محور المقاومة, [romanized](#): *miḥwar al-muqāwamah*) refers to an [anti-Western](#), [anti-Israeli](#) and anti-Saudi [political](#) and informal [military alliance](#)^[2] between [Iran](#), [Palestine](#), the [Syrian Government](#) and the [Lebanese militant](#) group [Hezbollah](#).^{[3][4][5]} [Pro-Syrian government militias](#), Iraqi [Shia](#) militias that are part of the Iraqi Government-sanctioned [Popular Mobilization Forces](#) and the [Yemeni Houthi movement](#) (officially: "Ansar Allah") are also considered part of the alliance.

Despite the alliance's differing ideologies, such as secular [Ba'athism](#) and [Shia Islamism](#), they are unified by their goal of opposing the activities of [pro-Western](#) parties, [Israel](#), [Gulf states](#) and [Sunni Islamists](#) in the region.

^[6] [Russia](#) and [China](#) has also been considered by Iran as part of the alliance, due to their anti-Western political stance and mostly positive relations with Iran and Syria.^[7]

Everyone not only along the Axis of Resistance - Tehran, Baghdad, Damascus, Hezbollah - but across the Global South had been aware of how Gen. Soleimani led the fight against Daesh in Iraq from 2014 to 2015, and how he had been instrumental in retaking Tikrit in 2015.

This was his real role – a true warrior of the war *on* terror, not the war *of* terror. For the Empire, to admit his aura glowed even across – vassalized – lands of Sunni Islam was anathema.

It was up to then-Iraqi Prime Minister Adil Abdul-Mahdi, in front of Parliament in Baghdad, to offer the definitive context: Gen. Soleimani, on a diplomatic mission, had boarded a regular Cham Wings Airbus A320 flight from Damascus to Baghdad. He was involved in complex negotiations between Tehran and Riyadh, with the Iraqi Prime Minister as a mediator, and all that at the request of President Trump.

So the imperial machine - following trademark, decades-long mockery of international law - assassinated a de-facto diplomatic envoy.

The King is now Naked

But then everything went downhill.

Tehran's direct response to Gen. Soleimani's assassination, in fact quite restrained considering the circumstances, was carefully measured to not unleash unrestrained imperial "deterrence".

It took the form of a series of precision missile strikes on the American-controlled Ain al-Assad air base in Iraq. The Pentagon, crucially, received an advance warning.

And it was precisely that measured response that turned out to be the game-changer.

Tehran's message made it graphically clear – for the whole Global South to see – that the days of imperial impunity were over.

Any exceptionalist with a working brain would not fail to get the message: we can hit your assets anywhere in the Persian Gulf - and beyond, at the time of our choosing.

So this was the first instance in which Gen Soleimani, even after leaving his mortal coil, contributed to the birth of the multipolar world.

Those precision missile strikes on the Ain al-Assad base told the story of a mid-ranked power, enfeebled by decades of sanctions, and facing a massive economic/financial crisis, responding to a unilateral attack by targeting imperial assets that are part of the sprawling 800-plus Empire of Bases.

Historically, that was a global first –unheard of since the end of WWII.

Iran is now solidified as one of the key nodes of the New Silk Roads in Southwest Asia. The Iran-China strategic partnership, boosted by Tehran's accession to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in 2002, is as strong geoeconomically and geopolitically as the interlocking partnerships with two other BRICS members, Russia and India. In 2023, Iran is set to become a member of BRICS+.

In parallel, the Iran/Russia/China triad will be deeply involved in the reconstruction of Syria – complete with BRI projects ranging from the Iran-Iraq-Syria-Eastern Mediterranean railway to, in the near future, the Iran-Iraq-Syria gas pipeline, arguably the key factor that provoked the American proxy war against Damascus.

Censorship, Africa: jan9 Watch: Six Journalists Arrested For Releasing Video Showing South Sudan President Wetting Himself

The 71-year-old had been rumored to be in ill health for months, **but during a photo-op in December, Kiir was shown standing during the nation's national anthem and wetting himself in a most embarrassing way.**

Six staffers for the national broadcasting company in South Sudan were arrested by the security service. There were immediate complaints from the trade union

representing the staffers that the law, which gives the government the power to hold someone for 24 hours before taking them before a judge, is being violated.

The staffers are being charged with having knowledge of the unauthorized release of “certain footage.”

“If there is a prima facie case of professional misconduct or offense then let authorities expedite an administrative or legal process to address the issue in a fair, transparent [*sic*] and in accordance with the law,” union chair [Oyet Patrick Charles said](#).

[The Associated Press reports](#) that ***“The presidential election was recently postponed again, this time to late 2024, amid the slow implementation of a 2018 peace deal ending a five-year civil war.”***

There hasn’t been a presidential election in South Sudan since the independence, and Kiir claimed he did not want “to rush you into an election that will take us back to war,” he said.

The national security services in South Sudan are making a habit of arresting people and holding them indefinitely.

[Reuters:](#)

Muthoki Mumo, CPJ’s sub-Saharan [Africa](#) representative, said the arrests match a “pattern of security personnel resorting to arbitrary detention whenever officials deem coverage unfavourable.”

“Authorities should unconditionally release these six SSBC employees and ensure that they can work without further intimidation or threat of arrest,” Mumo said.

So South Sudan’s agony will continue with a president who is at the very least incontinent and almost certainly losing the ability to lead his country.

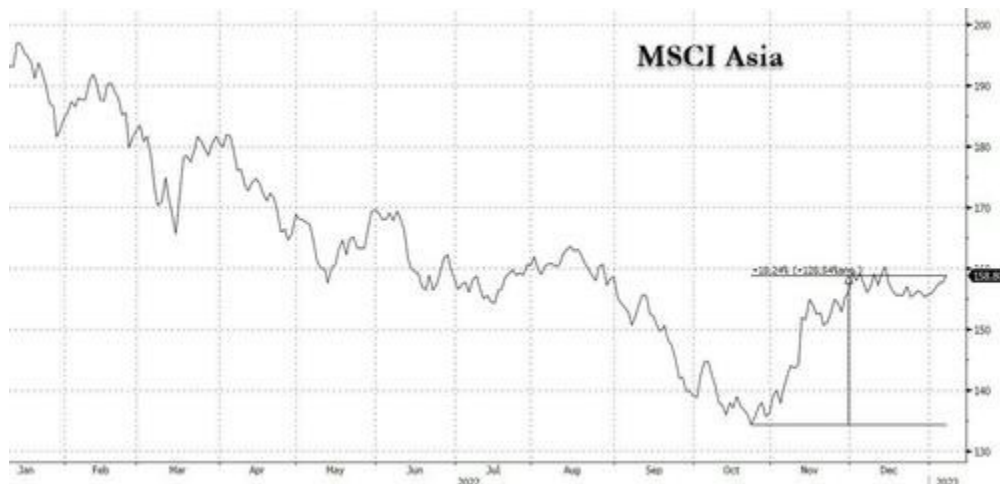
[Inflation, markets: jan9](#) **Goldman Sachs' Epic Hiring Spree Ends With Biggest Round Of Job Cuts Ever**

War, Erdogan: jan9 Swedish PM Kristersson said they have fulfilled commitments made to Turkey at the Madrid summit but noted that Turkey is demanding concessions that Stockholm cannot give to approve its application to join NATO, according to FT.

War, markets, energy, sanctions: jan9 MSCI asia enters bull market, surging 20% starting in october; russia's attack not working due to mild weather, increased supply, with gas reserves nearly full; brazilian former president, who is said to have been the first national leader censored by twitter in history for saying coronavirus was a "little-flu" in the early days of the pandemic, has an irate minority of people refusing to concede victory or something, bunch of his supporters storm capital building one week after new brazilian president elected

- Russian President Vladimir Putin's plans to squeeze Europe by weaponizing energy look to be fizzling at least for now. Mild weather, a wider array of suppliers and efforts to reduce demand are helping, with gas reserves still nearly full and prices tumbling to pre-war levels

Earlier in the session, Asia's benchmark stock index was on track to enter a bull market, as China's reopening and a weakening dollar lure investors back to the region. **The MSCI Asia Pacific Index climbed as much as 1.9% on Monday, taking its advance from an Oct. 24 low to more than 20%.** The Asian benchmark is up 3.7% so far in 2023, beating the S&P 500 Index by about two percentage points. That's after they both slumped about 19% last year, their worst performance since 2008.



Gauges in Hong Kong, Taiwan and South Korea led gains in the session, while Japan was closed for a holiday. Strategists have predicted a better year for Asian equities after a dismal 2022, especially as stocks in China, which carry the second-highest weighting in the regional gauge after Japan, turned a corner in November following the nation's shift away from stringent virus curbs. The bull market milestone comes after the MSCI Asia gauge tumbled nearly 40% from a peak in early 2021. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is on track to enter a bull market after surging more than 20% from its October low, boosted by Chinese stocks after the nation pivoted on its Covid strategy and offered more policy support for the economy.

- Brazil's capital was recovering early Monday from an insurrection by thousands of supporters of ex-President Jair Bolsonaro who stormed the country's top government institutions, leaving a trail of destruction and testing the leadership of Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva just a week after he took office

War, sanctions, inflation, markets, government: jan9 A **"Checkmate-Like" Situation: Zoltan Pozsar Says Fed Will Restart QE By The Summer Of 2023**

was just thining this yesterday. It could turn into a sort of volatile chart with regard to the federal funds rate, where America changing the rate to conform to constantly changing financial conditions. Maybe ythis whole high rates atmossphere won't be sustainable, causing the american government to re-adjust, again.

Stats, vaccine, health: jan9 schools shutting down: Declining birthrates, a rise in home schooling and growing competition from private and charter schools are contributing to the decline in traditional public school enrollment, according to school officials.”

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/public-schools-lost-more-than-one-million-students-during-pandemic-11672881798>

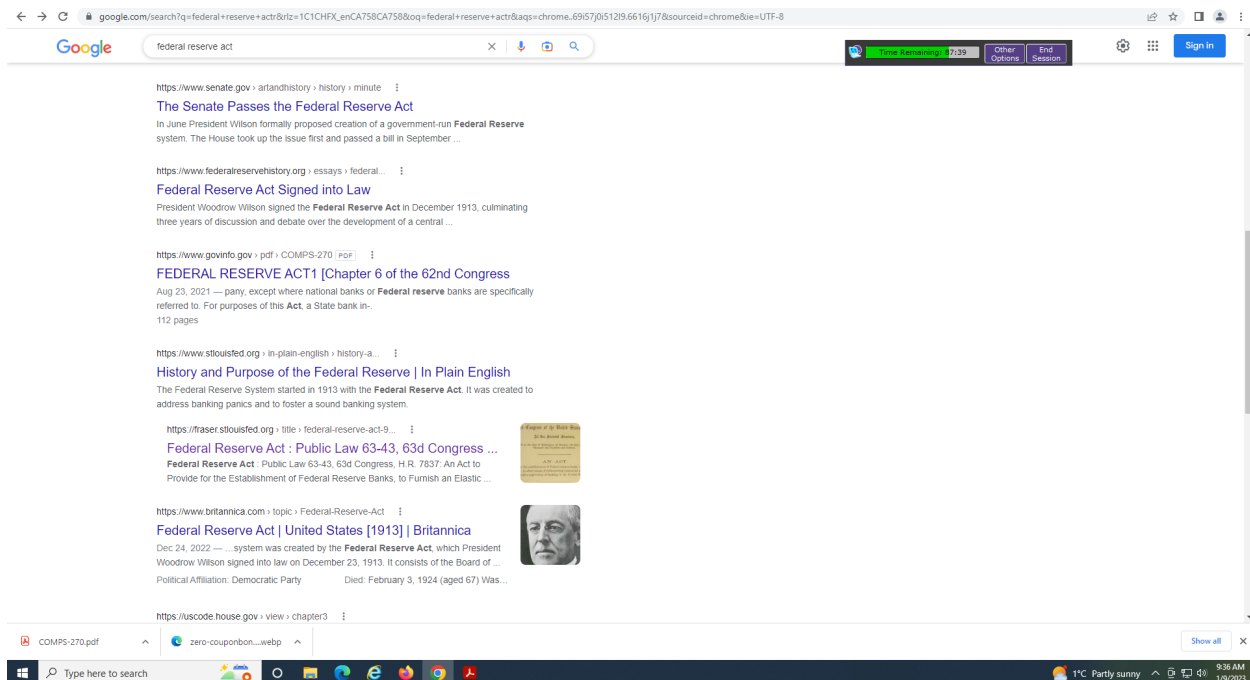
inflation, stats, markets, censorship: [3]3 messages in conversation pretty sure this whole kaplan trading scandal thing is actually only supposed to result in a fine and being kicked out of office--not criminal. Have to read the federal reserve act again

13. Any Federal reserve bank may receive from any of its memberbanks, and from the United States, deposits of current funds in lawful money,national-bank notes, Federal reserve notes, or checks and drafts upon solventmember banks, payable upon presentation; or, solely for exchange purposes,may receive from other Federal reserve banks deposits of current funds inlawful money, national-bank notes, or checks and drafts upon solvent m em ber or other Federal reserve banks, payable upon presentation. Upon the indorsement of any of its member banks, with a waiver of demand,notice and protest by such bank, any Federal reserve bank may discount notes,drafts, and bills of exchange arising out of actual commercial transactions; that is, notes, drafts, and bills of exchange issued or drawn for agricultural, industrial,or commercial purposes, or the proceeds of which have been used, or are to be used, for such

purposes, the Federal Reserve Board to have the right to determine or define the character of the paper thus eligible for discount, within the meaning of this Act. Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to prohibit such notes, drafts, and bills of exchange, secured by staple agricultural products, or other goods, wares, or merchandise from being eligible for such discount; but such definition shall not include notes, drafts, or bills covering merely investments or issued or drawn for the purpose of carrying or trading in stocks, bonds, or other investment securities, except bonds and notes of the Government of the United States. Notes, drafts, and bills admitted to discount under the terms of this paragraph must have a maturity at the time of discount of not more than ninety days: Provided, That notes, drafts, and bills drawn or issued for agricultural purposes or based on live stock and having a maturity not exceeding six months may be discounted in an amount to be limited to a percentage of the capital of the Federal reserve bank, to be ascertained and fixed by the Federal Reserve Board. Any Federal reserve bank may discount acceptances which are based on the importation or exportation of goods and which have a maturity at time of discount of not more than three months, and indorsed by at least one member bank.

this link presents itself as the federal reserve act, when in fact it is not <https://perma.cc/3DNG-RA24>

it's top ranked on google for federal reserve act...



this link here provides the actual federal reserve act. I know because i searched for the word securities and it showed it was oinly mentioned 3 times in the whole act, and when I checked a 'better source'--didn't think I'd run into problems with stlouis feds official website, but whatever--it showed the word ws mentioned 44 times, which didn't surprise me because I've scanned though the act many times at this point.

<https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/COMPS-270>

history, markets, stats: Banker's acceptances have been around since the 12th century. Just like now, BAs were used as a method of facilitating trade. In the 18th and 19th centuries, BAs started to become an actively traded market in London.

"The use of BAs is most common in [international trade transactions](#). A buyer with an importing business can issue a banker's acceptance with a date after a shipment is due to be delivered, and the seller with an exporting business will have the payment instrument in hand before finalizing the shipment."

The person who is paid with a banker's acceptance may hold onto it until its maturity date in order to receive its full value or can sell it immediately at a discount to face value.

Unlike a regular check, a banker's acceptance relies on the creditworthiness of the banking institution rather than the individual or business that issues it. The bank requires that the issuer meet its credit eligibility requirements, typically including a deposit sufficient to cover the banker's acceptance.



Zero-Coupon Bond

['zir-(,)ō 'kü-,pän 'bänd]

A debt security that does not pay interest but instead trades at a deep discount, rendering a profit at maturity, when the bond is redeemed for its full face value.

 Investopedia

Investopedia / Laura Porter

A zero-coupon bond, also known as an accrual bond, is a debt security that does not pay interest but instead trades at a deep discount, rendering a profit at maturity, when the bond is redeemed for its full face value.

Government, china, sanctions, war: jan8 **US Computer Giant Dell to Replace All China-Made Chips in Its Products by 2024**

War, Erdogan: jan8 **Warning Shots Fired as Greek, Turkish Patrol Boats Face Off**

Health, stats, media, censorship: jan8 **1:17 on cancer is a perfect example of groupthink in the science community, and even medical community**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmxUsAI29fw&t=67s>

tech, ai: jan8 **DoNotPay, a company founded in 2015 by a then-Stanford University freshman to appeal parking tickets, develops robot AI**

tech, stats, ai: jan8 **AI-Powered ‘Robot Lawyer’ Takes First Court Case Next Month**

stats, media, censorship: jan8 **Australia allows consent as a legitimate defense for sex with a minor, and of any age, apparently**

But, they can consent to sexual intercourse, making consent or reasonable belief of consent available as a defence, even when a child is involved.

Judge Richard Earwaker, who presided over the case, addressed the issue of consent on a person under 16 years old in the final days of the trial, [the New Zealand Herald reported](#).

“Legally, a person under 16 cannot give consent for charges of indecent acts, therefore as a jury, all you need to decide is if the indecent acts took place,” he said. “But as for sexual intercourse, a person under 16 can give

consent. You need to consider whether or not the consent was given based on the evidence you have.”

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/05/calls-for-changes-to-new-zealand-law-after-rapist-claims-sex-with-12-year-old-consensual>

censorship, media, stats, vaccine: jan8 [read later: “These Doctors Pushed Masking, Covid Lockdowns on Twitter. Turns Out, They Don’t Exist”](#)

Among other disturbing precedents, the strange episode recalls the saga of a white [Arizona State University professor who admitted to inventing a bisexual Hopi Native American colleague](#) she claimed died of COVID-19. At the time, a professor at the University of Arizona who is Hopi told The Daily Beast of their nonexistent colleague, “It sounds like a hoax to me. If so, it’s a sick hoax.”

Before the account was deleted on Tuesday, Honeyman’s tweets were shrouded in skepticism and demands for answers about their real identity—and whether they suffered any loss at all.

“Who r u and what’s your motivation for all these lies?” one Twitter follower demanded.

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/robert-honeyman-described-a-covid-nightmare-on-twitter-before-people-started-asking-questions>

The San Francisco Standard

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The San Francisco Standard

Format	Online
Editor-in-chief	Jonathan Weber
Language	English
Headquarters	San Francisco, California
Website	sfstandard.com

The San Francisco Standard is an online news organization based in San Francisco, California. It was funded in part by the billionaire venture capitalist [Michael Moritz](#). The Standard was covered in other media for its coverage of [Chesa Boudin](#)'s drug prosecution record.^[1]

The San Francisco Standard was originally *Here/Say Media*, a project of Civic Action Labs, a 501(c)4 nonprofit. Some journalism ethicists were concerned about the organization's structure (nearly all nonprofit journalism organizations are 501(c)3 nonprofits) and refusal to disclose its donors.^{[2][3]} In March 2021, Here/Say disclosed on its website that it was funded by Crankstart, a foundation funded by Michael Moritz and Harriet Heyman.^[3] In August 2021, Here/Say wrote that it had incorporated into an independent, for-profit entity, and that Moritz and Heyman had invested \$10 million.^[4]

In November 2021, Here/Say Media announced that that the organization changed its name to *The San Francisco Standard*.^[5]

In December 2021, the Standard partnered with [ABC 7](#) to cover the [2022 California's 17th State Assembly district special election](#).

The San Francisco Standard's voter poll was featured in news coverage on the [recall election of San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin](#).^{[6][7]}

In May 2022, the Standard published a story showing that Boudin's office secured three convictions for drug dealing in 2021, whereas Boudin's predecessor [George Gascón](#) oversaw over 90 convictions in 2018. Instead, Boudin's office emphasized convictions for a different crime which would not penalize foreign nationals with deportation or threats to naturalization.^[8] The story generated secondary coverage in the [National Review](#),^[9] [Washington Monthly](#),^[10] [Center for Immigration Studies](#),^[11] [Courthouse News Service](#).^[12] The story was criticized by Matt Charnock of *The Bold Italic* for allegedly misrepresenting facts and contributing to xenophobic rhetoric.^[1]

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External Links^[edit]

- [San Francisco Standard website](#)

Categories:

- [News media in the United States](#)
- [Companies based in San Francisco](#)

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The two fake doctors, whose accounts urged extreme caution about Covid-19, were part of a network of at least four fake accounts that touted their ties to the LGBTQ+ community, vocally advocated for mask-wearing and social distancing, and dished out criticism to those they felt were not taking the pandemic seriously.

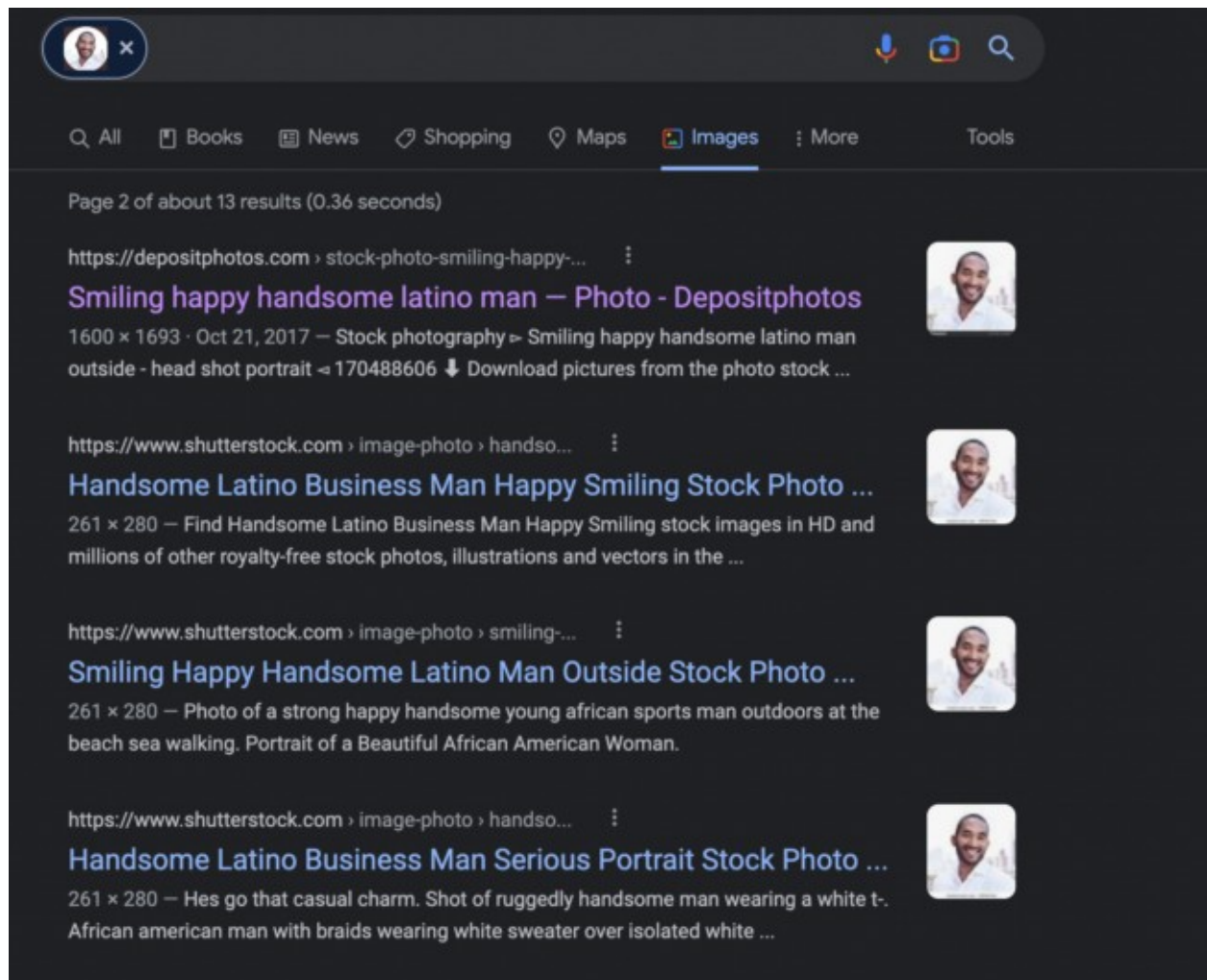
The Honeymans could not be reached for comment, as they do not exist. At publication time, Robert Honeyman's account was no longer active.

The fake doctors were uncovered by Joshua Gutterman Tranen, a self-described "gay writer" pursuing a master's of fine arts at Bennington College. He saw Robert Honeyman's tweet about their husband being in a coma, noticed people he followed also followed them, and thought that they might be part of the LGBTQ+ academic community.

But after 10 minutes of googling, Gutterman Tranen concluded that Robert Honeyman's photo was a stock image and their biography stretched boundaries of believability: an academic who left no traces on academic websites and had lost two family members to Covid in late 2022, despite masking and distancing.

The character looked like "liberal Mad Libs," Gutterman Tranen said.

"I'm a self-identified leftist, and I understand that people have a lot of different identities, but it felt concocted in the lab about how many identities and horrible experiences can we put on one person," he said.



The Standard ran Dr. Robert Honeyman's Twitter photo through a Google reverse image search and found that it was a widely available stock photo. (Screenshot)

Throughout the pandemic, Twitter has been an important, if complicated, platform. Medical experts have used it to speak directly to the public about Covid and to criticize policies that they feel don't do enough to protect people from the disease.

But Twitter has also been a site of disinformation and provocative claims that are based in fact or scientific knowledge but lack context. As the pandemic has dragged on, governments have lifted Covid restrictions, and people have shed their masks, more of the burden of charting a path in the "new normal" has fallen on individuals. And public-facing experts like [UCSF's Bob Wachter](#) and [Monica Gandhi](#) have become important sources of advice.

But as the [iconic New Yorker cartoon](#) states, “On the internet, nobody knows you’re a dog”—or a fake doctor, for that matter.

The Honeymans offer one of the most blatant examples of this. It is unclear who created the two doctors, but their bios and personas signpost identities meant to appeal to a certain type of Twitter denizen: liberal, pro-diversity and concerned about Covid. Or meant to provoke the opposite of that type of person.

Both doctors present themselves as members of the LGBTQ+ community. Robert displayed the trans and Ukrainian flags in their Twitter name. Patrick had a rainbow flag in his bio.

Robert wrote openly about suffering from MPX, an infectious disease that caused [San Francisco to declare a state of emergency earlier this year](#) and had largely spread among men who have sex with men. “Don’t believe what the media have been sharing. [...] it’s a horrible disease that has had me bed ridden,” they tweeted in July. They also claimed to have been the victim of a transphobic attack in October.

Another account associated with the group, [Dr. Gerold Fischer](#), displayed rainbow, trans and Ukrainian flags next to his name and described himself as “an ally for all in the #LGBTQ+ Community. #WearAMask.” Fischer’s account has since been taken down.

A fourth account, Dr. Steve “Ste” Ville, who claimed an affiliation with the University of Antwerp, described himself as an “LGBTQ+ Ally” and a “Proud Mask Wearer.”

All four doctors had a few things in common. Three had created their accounts during the pandemic. Fischer’s account dated to 2019, but his earliest visible tweet was from July 2022.

The doctors also frequently interacted with one another. Fischer’s first tweets were, in fact, a retweet, a quote tweet and a response to Robert Honeyman.

Robert Honeyman claimed that Fischer, who said he was suffering from post-Covid brain fog, was “the sharpest individual” they met at university. The two “doctors” sent greetings to each other’s families.

All four accounts urged caution about Covid. They also amplified the voices of other Twitter users calling on the public to mask, vaccinate and socially distance. At times, they criticized policies that they felt undermined

pandemic safety and individuals who they believed did not take Covid seriously enough.

But as Twitter users responded to Gutterman Tranen's thread on the Honeymans, they also discovered the accounts expressing views that appeared implausible.

"Come on china! Stop protesting, I wish we had similar lockdown measures here," Robert Honeyman wrote in a Nov. 27 tweet.

They also claimed to have been a consultant who helped to make the character Velma a lesbian in the new Scooby-Doo movie.

The Standard was unable to establish who created the four fake doctors. But perhaps the most alarming aspect of their nonexistence online is that it is also unclear *why* they were created.

Gutterman Tranen wondered about the motivation behind them.

"Is this someone who is well-intentioned but perhaps has a lot of anxiety about Covid, and this is a way for them to act out those anxieties?" he asked. "Or is this something more nefarious where someone thinks creating accounts like this is a way to point at them and say: 'Look how crazy the liberals are'?"

As he watches his initial tweet about the Honeymans go viral, Gutterman Tranen is philosophical about the situation. He believes people are responding so strongly to his discovery because we all know that these kinds of accounts exist, but we seldom delve deeply into whether the person tweeting is actually authentic.

"We've just accepted that disinformation is an essential part of how Twitter works," he said.

But as Twitter users marveled over the four fake doctors, at least one "person" wasn't having it: Ville.

"Disgusting to see the accusations being thrown my way, it's truly incredible to see how quick 'good' people can switch up on you in the blink of an eye," he tweeted on Dec. 13, "that age old saying rings true, 'The one thing they love more than a hero is to see a hero fail, fall, die trying.'"

Rage on, Dr. Steve.

Energy, markets, history, sanctions: jan8
Colonial Pipeline, carrying some 45 percent of the gasoline and diesel fuel the East Coast of the U.S. consumes, helping oil prices to steady on Thursday after a massive selloff on Tuesday and Wednesday that saw crude oil plunging by 9% in two days for the worst start to a year since 1991.

The Colonial Pipeline disruption is the second oil/fuel pipeline shutdown in as many months.

Colonial Shuts Key Fuel Pipeline to New York Harbor After Spill

Sheela Tobben and Chunzi Xu, Bloomberg News

• (Bloomberg) -- Colonial Pipeline Co. halted operations on a critical conduit that supplies fuel to the US Northeast, the latest disruption to energy flows following an outage on the Keystone oil pipeline last month. Some product was released at Colonial's Witt booster station near Danville, Virginia, prompting the shutdown of its Line 3 Tuesday, spokeswoman Meredith Stone said in an email. The company is planning a restart at around 12 p.m. Eastern time on Saturday, she said. The company said an equipment failure had resulted in the leak, and this was being repaired.

The ruptured Colonial pipe leaked an estimated 60 barrels of diesel, which flowed into a storm water collection basin at its facility, said Aaron Proctor, a spokesman for the state's environmental quality department. The pipe's operator indicated it expected repairs will occur by Friday, according to an emailed statement from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

Colonial's Line 3 transports refined products such as gasoline, diesel and jet fuel to the New York Harbor market from Greensboro, North Carolina, and is part of a broader system that supplies fuels to the eastern US from refineries on the Gulf Coast.

The incident follows the outage to TC Energy Corp.'s Keystone pipeline after the biggest onshore oil spill since 2010. The conduit, which can deliver as much as 600,000 barrels a day of Canadian crude into the US Midwest, only fully returned to service last week.

The outage coincided with the largest weekly drop in US gasoline demand since March 2020. The weakness for consumption means fuel producers on the Gulf Coast are feeling the pinch from the pipeline disruption more than consumers: Gulf Coast gasoline fell by a couple cents per gallon against futures following the outage, while New York markets also softened. East Coast gasoline supplies have been building over the past few weeks during a seasonal demand lull worsened by a severe winter storm.

New York Harbor is a major import hub receiving fuel from Canada, Europe, India and South America, making it better insulated from Colonial pipeline disruptions than the Southeast. A prolonged outage of Line 3 could strain supplies on the East Coast, though, while flooding the Gulf Coast with fuel. Colonial didn't provide details about the volume and product that leaked.

--With assistance from Joe Aboussleman.

(Updates with additional comments from Colonial in second paragraph and price movements in sixth paragraph)

Markets: ISM New Orders Service Sector shows crazy drop (not seen other than during the lockdown)... Most major banks agree: 2023 spells BIG TROUBLE for the U.S. economy



Stats, housing: jan8 they say median mortgage payment is the better guage of the average than calculating the actual average in a recent business insider article

Data from the 2021 American Community Survey shows that homeowners paid a median amount of \$1,672 per month

However, an average, which can be skewed by payments that are atypically low or high, probably isn't the most accurate depiction of what the typical US homeowner actually pays. A better measure of this is the median, which represents the middle number in a data set.

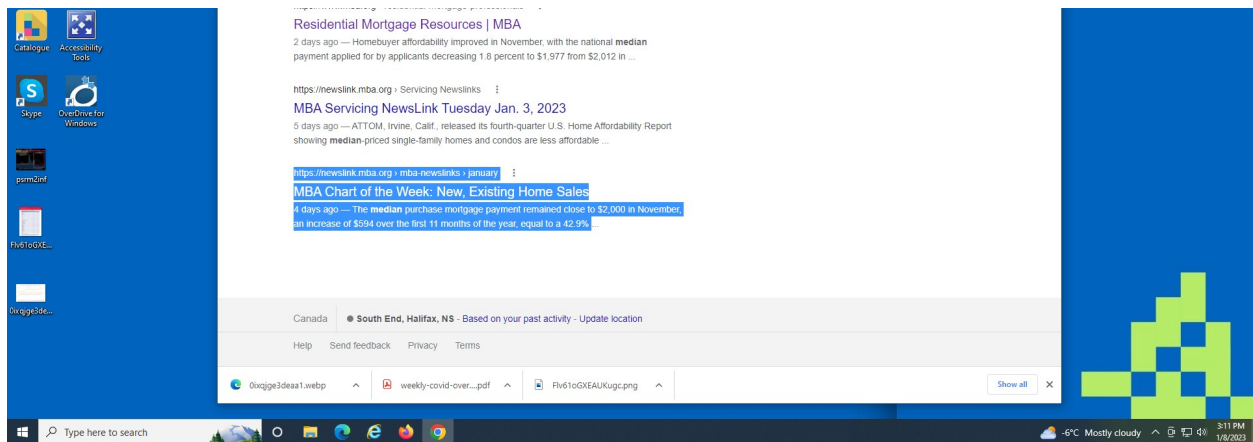
The median monthly cost of homeownership in the US is \$1,672 per month, according to the most recent data from the [Census Bureau's 2021 American Community Survey](#).

That cost includes not only the monthly mortgage payment, but also other necessary costs [like homeowners insurance](#), HOA fees, and property taxes.

businessinsiderdotcom/personal-finance/average-mortgage-payment

The reason I'm saving this is because i see in this chart that the median rose to 2600 in 2022. When I looked at the business insider article, they cite the lower number, but then if you look closer, you see that they are referencing 2021 figures, even though the article says it was written this year in january.

then it says this on the best source



and after reading this article here, you see that the rise was due to the fed pivot Homebuyer affordability worsened in October as higher mortgage rates pushed the monthly payment to record highs.

The national median monthly payment increased 3.7% to \$2,012 in October from \$1,941 in September, according to the [Mortgage Bankers Association](#) (MBA), marking a new high for the survey. That's also equal to a 45.5% year-over-year increase, increasing the average monthly mortgage payment by \$629 in the first 10 months of the year.

The figures underscore the challenging conditions many would-be buyers have faced this year as higher rates, elevated home prices, and inflation put homeownership out of reach.

"Higher mortgage rates are also squeezing the purchasing power of prospective buyers," Edward Seiler, MBA's associate vice president, housing economics, and executive director, Research Institute for Housing America, said in a news statement. "The median loan amount last month decreased to \$295,000 – the lowest level since January 2021."

ca.news.yahoo.com/housing-median-mortgage-payment-reaches-record-high-in-october-145537241.html

stats: Layoffs.fyi is tracking corporate layoffs in the tech sector

ensorship: jan8 Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, the official opposition for the country, says, "Free speech isn't free unless people are allowed to disagree" in response to the Jordan Peterson debacle

twitterdotcom/PierrePoilievre/status/1611363161126633472?

Vaccine, health: jan8 Australia reports 5.6% death rate due to COVID infection for the week ending december 31st

Table 1. People with a COVID-19 diagnosis in the previous 14 days who were admitted to hospital, admitted to ICU or reported as having died in the two weeks ending 31 December 2022

	Admitted to hospital (but not to ICU)	Admitted to ICU	Deaths
Gender			
Female	842	63	42
Indeterminate	1	0	0
Male	936	77	53
Age group (years)			
0-9	85	3	0
10-19	24	3	0
20-29	67	8	1
30-39	79	7	0
40-49	64	6	0
50-59	105	17	3
60-69	199	27	8
70-79	436	42	19
80-89	507	24	31
90+	213	3	33
Local Health District of residence[*]			
Central Coast	113	3	5
Illawarra Shoalhaven	135	8	7
Nepean Blue Mountains	82	7	2
Northern Sydney	165	12	9
South Eastern Sydney	184	13	11
South Western Sydney	190	18	13
Sydney	157	10	5
Western Sydney	165	26	8
Far West	20	0	0
Hunter New England	176	16	16
Mid North Coast	76	5	3
Murrumbidgee	59	7	1
Northern NSW	77	3	8
Southern NSW	54	2	1
Western NSW	94	6	4
Vaccination status[^]			
Four or more doses	810	58	53
Three doses	377	29	19
Two doses	218	17	9
One dose	10	1	1
No dose	0	0	6
Unknown	364	35	7
Total	1779	140	95

^{*}Excludes cases in correctional settings[^]Vaccination status is determined by matching to Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) data. Name and date of birth need to be an exact match to that recorded in AIR for vaccination status to be determined. People with unknown vaccination status were those unable to be found in AIR. This may occur when names in AIR are different, for example shortened name or different spelling, to those used for the COVID-19 notification.

twitterdotcom/rodochri90/status/1611158706661765121?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1611159982912962562%7Ctwgr%5E61cb8847d47f04f6571a5504c984f1463c523d01%7Ctwcon%5Es2_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.investmentwatchblog.com%2Fholy-shit-the-weekly-covid-report-in-australia%2F

stats, vaccine, health, censorship: jan8 **More people died than were born in the Netherlands for the first time since 1900, entire growth last year all due to migration**

'The birth rate has been falling and deaths increasing for years, so it could be a temporary dip,' Ter Steege said. 'But if the excess deaths stop next year then more babies will be born than people dying.'

Read more at DutchNews.nl:

Media, stats, censorship: jan8 Former Lobbyist: Soda Companies Paid NAACP And Other Groups To Call Opponents "Racist"

"We (Coke) will give you money. You need to paint opponents of us as racist."

The effort was successful, and the message was carried in thousands of articles between 2011-2013.

<https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2023/01/former-lobbyist-soda-companies-paid-naacp-groups-call-opponents-racist/>

Calley Means

[Jan 2](#) • 11 tweets • 4 min read

Early in my career, I consulted for Coke to ensure sugar taxes failed and soda was included in food stamp funding.

I say Coke's policies are evil because I saw inside the room.

The first step in playbook was paying the NAACP + other civil rights groups to call opponents racist

Coke gave millions to the NAACP and the Hispanic Federation - both directly and through front groups like the American

Beverage Association.

This picked up in 2011-2013 - when the Farm Bill and soda taxes were under consideration.

nutritioninsight.com/news/cspi-repo...

But according to a new report issued by the nonprofit Center for Science in the Public Interest, that case, in which the state chapter of the NAACP and the Hispanic Federation unexpectedly joined Big Soda's legal fight, is just the latest illustration of the persuasive power of "philanthropic" grants from the sugar-drinks industry.

Both groups received grants from Coca-Cola, with the national NAACP receiving at least \$2.1 million from the soda giant since 1986, including \$100,000 as recently as December. The Hispanic Federation also lists Coke as a donor, and in February 2012 its president, Lillian Rodriguez Lopez, left the nonprofit group to become director of Latin affairs at the company.

According to CSPI's report, Selfish Giving, the soda industry's targeted generosity doesn't stop with civil rights or minority groups. Over the years, the industry has given money to—and cultivated relationships with—groups representing doctors, dentists, dietitians, anti-hunger advocates, and others.

Sometimes, the industry's influence can be subtle, as when in 2009 a \$600,000 grant from Coca-Cola paid for a health website for the American Academy of Family Physicians. While that site offers mild advice to consumers to choose water over sugary drinks, it does so with soft, industry-friendly language that echoes the industry's talking points, which often stress the need for "hydration." To the AAFP's credit, the group does support soda taxes, according to CSPI. And in 2003, a \$1 million grant from Coca-Cola was seemingly enough to get the president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry to suddenly hedge the group's position on the extent to which soda causes cavities.

Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Dr Pepper Snapple Group, the American Beverage Association, and Kraft Foods, maker of such sugar drinks as Kool Aid and Capri Sun, are also big donors to two major anti-hunger groups, the Food Research and Action Center and Feeding America. Those two groups, alongside the beverage industry, oppose barring the use of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as Food Stamps) to purchase sugar drinks. FRAC and Feeding America are highly respected organizations, but CSPI says their opposition to changes that would improve their constituents' health raises questions about their longstanding ties to food and beverage companies.

The conversations inside these rooms was depressingly transactional:

"We (Coke) will give you money. You need to paint opponents of us as racist."

The effort was successful, and the message was carried in thousands of articles between 2011-2013.

Coke's position was clear: soda is one of the cheapest ways to get calories - a flagrantly inaccurate statement when factoring in the health consequences.

I watched as the FDA funneled money to professors at leading universities - as well as think tanks on the left and right - to create studies showing soda taxes hurt the poor. They also paid for studies that say drinking soda DIDN'T cause obesity.

[reuters.com/article/us-usa...](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa...)

Of course, not mentioned in these studies is that incontrovertible fact that sugary drinks are one of the top causes of obesity and diabetes - leading to harrowing statistics like this.

Soda companies are deeply embedded in the USDA - so much so that the agency carries discredited talking points like "there are no bad food, only bad diets."

This ignores fact that sugar is highly addictive and has negative nutritional value.

In 2007, USDA had spelled out its position at greater length, in a memorandum titled "Implications of Restricting the Use of Food Stamp Benefits."²¹ This document asserted that there are no inherently bad foods, only bad diets resulting from bad combinations or quantities of food. For SSBs, federal dietary guidelines say, "If they are consumed, amounts should be within overall calorie limits and limits for calories from added sugars."²²

The 2007 memo goes on to say it would be burdensome for USDA to maintain an up to date list of products such as SSBs not allowable under SNAP, since an average of 12,000 new food products are introduced into retail stores every year. The task of identifying, evaluating, and tracking the nutrition profile of so many products could require a significantly expanded federal bureaucracy, or place an unacceptable certification burden on manufacturers. In addition, ordinary SNAP recipients could not be expected to know exactly which foods were allowable and which were not, so final enforcement would rest with poorly trained check-out clerks in the 260,000 stores authorized to accept food stamps. Particularly in smaller stores or specialty stores without modern scanning and inventory control systems, confusion over allowable items would slow down checkout, and rejections at checkout might be a stigmatizing experience.

In the end: racial tensions flared, soda spending was kept in SNAP funding, and many of the soda taxes were defeated...

Of course, this has been a disaster for low-income communities. Addictive, deadly sugary drinks should never be included in a government nutrition program.

People saying that restricting soda from SNAP funding is "paternalistic" or an "assault on personal choice" are unwittingly doing the work of the soda companies.

You can't have a free market if that market is rigged.

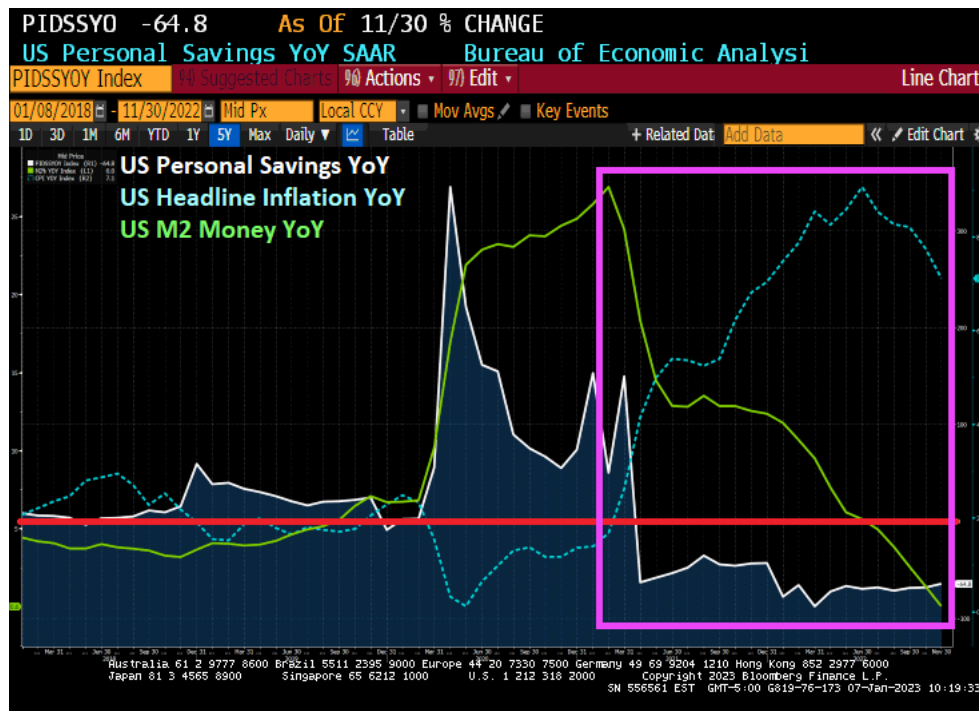
If this resonates, I am sending out a daily email exploring the food/health system and giving actionable health ideas that have impacted me:

Crypto, markets, stats: jan8 **Over 100 Countries are developing their own digital currency**

Health, stats, censorship: jan8 **looks like a nice cancer expose just came out; 2 hour documentary. Ill watch this.. "Burzynski: The Cancer Cure Cover-up". Addresses beurocracy, regulatory roadblocks..**

Censorship, vaccine: jan8 **Mar 28, 2022 7:47 PM: B.C. doctor accused of spreading COVID-19 misinformation suspended from practice**

Inflation, markets: jan8 **the fed pivot: m2 money yoy 0% growth, lowest level in history, inflation reversing, but still has a way to go**



Stats, vaccine, government, censorship: jan8 Fear Of COVID Is The Opiate Of The People (writer describes the exact same symptoms that were reported by practically everyone (all 100+ people) at our covidemergency quarentine center

After all of the criticism I've directed toward Coronamaniacs and the Vaxxmongers over the past three years - in-person and online - I know that many of them have wished that I'd get very sick and die "from Covid." If I had, they would have gleefully jeered me, as many did when lockdown critic Herman Cain died. Bear in mind that Mr. Cain was 74 and had Stage IV cancer.

Authored by Mark Oshinskie via The Brownstone Institute,

After all of the criticism I've directed toward Coronamaniacs and the Vaxxmongers over the past three years - in-person and online - I know that many of them have wished that I'd get very sick and die "from Covid." If I had, they would have gleefully jeered me, as many did when lockdown critic Herman Cain died. Bear in mind that Mr. Cain was 74 and had Stage IV cancer.

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Bond selloff 'unambiguously bad for all assets' -CIO

Huawei: 'business as usual' as U.S. sanctions pain ebbs

Africa in Business: China's COVID risk on S. Africa rand

Chinese airlines to win big on border openingNOW PLAYING

The Year in Numbers: rising prices, endless Elon

Southwest promises refunds over snow chaos

But I haven't died "from Covid." Like the super-vast majority of people, I was never at any risk of doing so.

While I'd prefer to never get sick, I always knew it was possible that I might "get Covid," just as I had gotten some other, prior, unnamed coronavirus-driven colds or flus. It's how life is, has been and will always be. Many people seem to be sick lately. It doesn't help immune function to be in the low light/low Vitamin D state of winter. And during the past three years of disrupted social life, our immune systems haven't been properly tested.

Many have said that, by Spring, 2022, everyone had been exposed to Covid-causing coronaviruses. Maybe it's true, though it sounds like hyperbole; I'm not sure how this could be known. Regardless, except for one February, 2020 day of malaise, and then a week-long dry cough with no apparent cause—perhaps a quick, nearly asymptomatic, pre-Lockdown brush with Covid, or perhaps nothing at all—I've felt fine for the past three years.

Last week, on the day after Christmas, that changed.

My muscles started to ache. These aches spread and lasted for three days, accompanied by a tight chest and a banging headache. On Day 2, I also got a high fever. I let the fever crest until I took some Tylenol to moderate my temperature. Serial doses over the next two days quelled the headaches. My wife got sick the day after I did and exhibited the same symptoms.

By our respective Day 4s, we each felt much better.

Aside from the fever, we didn't have the publicized, original Covid symptoms: shortness of breath, dry cough and fatigue. Plus, for what it's worth, we each tested negative on home antigen tests that my wife had gotten in the mail. Thus, we mutually guessed that

we probably had some form of flu. I didn't care whether or not I had "had Covid." That diagnosis never scared me. I only cared that we felt sick for three days.

A day later, by coincidence—or perhaps because my computer was, in our surveillance society, eavesdropping on my wife and my conversations about how we were feeling, physically—this clickbait headline appeared on my screen: "The New Symptoms of Covid."

I took the bait. The article set forth a revised list of symptoms closely resembling those that my wife and I had just endured.

Hmm. Maybe we did "have Covid." The new kind. Because heaven forbid that anyone might think that they just got some unspecified sort of cold or flu, as they might have thought three-plus years ago.

To the extent I might believe the article, it said that the virus had mutated into yet another variant, this one with the parodic name, "XBB-1.5." I've known for decades that viruses mutate. This adaptability was another reason that I declined to begin to take an endless series of shots said to protect against viruses that would continually go out of fashion, only to be replaced by others.

Throughout, my understanding has been that viruses typically weaken—not strengthen—following such mutations. Thus, I might expect that a coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, which was unscary to begin with, would cause the same symptoms—only weaker—as it evolved into some different variant under the "Covid" umbrella.

But as a virus weakens, I didn't assume—as the clickbait article suggested—that the types of symptoms would change. I've wondered why an illness caused by an ever-evolving virus, that is supposedly genetically distinct from its viral predecessors and said to cause different symptoms than other viruses or variants have caused, is still widely presented to the public as "Covid."

Like other marketing campaigns—only more so—countless money and boundless effort went into building the "Covid" brand. In order to incite fear, Government/Media/Pharma had to set "Covid" apart from centuries of respiratory illnesses experienced by those infected by other coronaviruses. Given the name recognition that Government/Media have developed for "Covid" since March, 2020, they're motivated to stick with this well-known brand name to describe a viral disease that wasn't much different from centuries of pre-March, 2020 Coronavirus infections; which, in turn, won't be much different from infections that follow it, ad infinitum.

Christian Scientists say that to name a disease is to empower it. But while the Christian Scientists think it's bad to empower an illness, Government/Media/Pharma have taken the opposite approach: for three years, they've relentlessly strived to empower, and thus, exploit "Covid."

Politically and economically, it's been extremely useful to perpetuate the Covid franchise. Keeping some people scared of Covid helps to sustain the perpetual State of Emergency—oxymoron intended—and all of the Covid-linked government oppression and subsidy schemes that depend upon the myth of crisis. If, instead of referring to "Covid," Government/Media used all of the various variant names, the public might eventually figure out what they should have known in March, 2020: we've always lived

among evolving respiratory viruses that briefly sicken many people but don't seriously threaten anyone who's healthy.

Though to those with the attention span to accommodate all of the shifting variant names, these names might have a certain spooky sci-fi cachet of their own: so many viruses keep emerging that some people feel they're under siege.

But overall, from a fear-marketing standpoint, it's best to stick with the simpler, original brand name:

"Covid."

"Covid."

"Covid."

Did I mention "Covid?"

Government/Media/Pharma have seared "Covid" into the American consciousness and terrorized people by grossly exaggerating Covid's lethality. They aggressively suppressed criticisms of the attendant scam. By repeatedly saying "Covid" and "Pandemic," they weaponized these words in order to pacify and control the masses, to effect the biggest wealth transfer in history to the already rich—including but not limited to, Pharma—to further impoverish the working class that they now disdain, and to strategically change election laws.

Aside from sustaining the perception of a public health Crisis, and to justify imposing a wide array of deprivation restrictions on basic liberties, sustaining Covid brand loyalty also provides at least three other important, continuing benefits.

Firstly, by keeping at least some segment of the population afraid of the Covid bogeyman, politicians can use it as an excuse to print ever more "Covid Emergency" relief and research money, ostensibly, but not actually, to control what Biden strategically labeled "this God-awful disease;" even though everyone I know who has had it experienced it as a cold or flu. This massive, annually supplemented slush fund will be used for a vast array of chicanery, including widespread political patronage, with tentacles reaching through politically-aligned state and municipal governments, political donors, the Medical Industrial Complex and the Defense/Biosecurity apparatus. Covid is worth far more alive than it is dead.

Secondly, sustaining Covidism protects politicians and public health bureaucrats. By continuing to invoke "Covid" to spook a gullible public, the scaremongers can use this word to defuse public anger regarding the overreaction of the past three years and all of the lasting damage which people are belatedly seeing. People who are constantly reminded of the Covid Scare of the past three years or who remain naively scared of the Covid Monster will continue to think that all measures to crush it were worth the suffering that the Government/Media/Pharma opportunistically caused with their orchestrated overreaction. Thus, most people won't demand accountability for the scam of the past three years. They'll allow the Government/Media/Pharma to continue to hide behind the foundational lie that "We did all of that to save you from death!"

Fear of Covid is the opiate of the people.

Lest we forget how essential it was—not—to wreck American society and economy over a virus that threatened almost no one under 75, politicians will order and fund the construction of public monuments where people can go and wring their hands over, and speak in hushed tones about, the deaths of unhealthy septugenarians, octogenarians and nonagenarians “from Covid.”

Thirdly, preserving the Covid Scare also enables Government/Media/Pharma to unilaterally, arbitrarily declare victory over Covid whenever it wants. If Covid ever becomes a political liability, it can be decreed to have been conquered. The self-proclaimed Covid-slaying politicians can portray themselves, and the public health bureaucrats, as saviors of humanity. The Media can hail, and gullible people will venerate, those who may claim to have liberated our nation from the long-lasting grip of, as Trump so inaptly called it, “The Plague.”

Fundamentally, whether my wife or I had some weird, sore-throat-free cold, some nausea-less flu or just the latest style of “Covid,” neither of us enjoyed our three-day viral experience. Like any old school respiratory virus, this one made us feel lousy, albeit with a different constellation of symptoms. We handled it the same way as other viral illnesses: we drank extra water, took some home remedies, and tried to get some extra sleep. A few years ago, no one made a big deal about, or needed to categorize, being sick like this. People rode it out. No one cared what you had. Or didn’t have.

During the three days that my wife and I felt the effects of some sort of virus, I never regretfully thought that I would’ve been fine if I had only worn a mask. Nor, while reclining on the sofa sipping hot tea, did I think to blame anyone for passing a virus to me; I understood that an occasional respiratory infection is an unavoidable cost of social life.

And I definitely didn’t think that any coronavirus justified shutting down a society or mass-injecting some experimental substance.

These measures have failed miserably and caused tremendous, lasting and expanding harm.

markets, china jan8 Prices of Tesla vehicles in China are now between 13% and 24% lower than they were in September.

"About a dozen police officers" were on site at the protests in Shanghai. "Return the money, refund our cars," a crowd in one protest video, posted to social media, chants out loud.

Tesla has cut prices to help spur demand as the company heads into the new year. In Q4 2022, Tesla reported a record number of vehicle deliveries, but still missed Wall Street's estimates.

Stats, vaccine, media: jan8 2022 Box Office Still 33% Shy Of Pre-Pandemic Levels

War, history, stats, Erdogan, middle east: jan8 perfect syria brekadownd ive been looking for: Without Turkiye's involvement in Syria, the Neocons' goal of strangling Russia on gas imports to Europe never happens

Without Turkiye's involvement in Syria, the Neocons' goal of strangling Russia on gas imports to Europe never happens. This was the main impetus behind the Syrian War in the first place. To get him on board, Erdogan had to be bribed with a massive land grab, which he's tried to accomplish.

But when he didn't do enough to start a war with Russia in November 2015 after Turkiye supposedly shot down a Russian SU-24, he was rewarded with a coup attempt against him led by the CIA and US military out of the Incerlik airbase, by all accounts.

He was saved, apparently, by an early warning from Putin and ferried out to Iran to issue his counter-attack orders to the Turkish military on the night of the coup attempt.

This was the beginning of the end of Turkiye's relationship with NATO and the US.

The road between Turkey and Russia to this point has been incredibly rocky. Putin has been exceedingly patient with Erdogan over a dozen issues, his back-pedaling and, at times, double-dealing.

But the reality is that, like him or not, every year since Russia's move into Syria Erdogan has acted in his interest, creating leverage on the ground by taking territory in Syria, making outrageous claims against the Eastern Mediterranean, while playing the West and Russia against each other on NATO expansion, refugee policy, and his support of Azerbaijan and Ukraine.

War, sanctions, Germany: jan8 important breakdown on the ukraine-russia-germany situation: in rare interview since her 16 years chancellor of germany, angela merkel gives her opinion on ukraine's mink agreement, surprising commentators by saying that the 2014 minsk agreements were just meant to buy time for ukraine to arm themselves for an eventually war

Merkel, who was also leader of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), has made few public statements since she was replaced as chancellor by Olaf Scholz (Social Democratic Party, SPD) a year ago, after sixteen years in office. The extensive interview published by *Die Zeit* on December 7 is a rare exception.

According to former German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the Minsk agreement served to buy time to rearm Ukraine. "The 2014 Minsk agreement was an attempt to give Ukraine time," Merkel told the weekly *Die Zeit*. "It also used this time to become stronger, as you can see today."

Behind the scenes, however, Merkel remains politically active. In her office, to which she is entitled as a former chancellor, she employs nine people, four more than approved—an office manager, a deputy manager, two desk officers, three clerks and two drivers. She maintains regular contact with Scholz, as he himself has reported. She had already cultivated a good relationship with him when he was still finance minister in the grand coalition government.

All the more remarkable is her admission that the Minsk agreement served to buy time for Ukraine's rearmament. "It was clear to all of us that this was a frozen conflict, that the problem had not been solved, but that is precisely what gave Ukraine valuable time," Merkel told *Die Zeit*.

Previously, the Minsk agreement, which Merkel signed together with then-French President François Hollande, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin in September 2014, had been portrayed as an effort towards peace that the Russian president had allegedly later thwarted.

Now, Merkel confirms that NATO wanted war from the start but needed time to prepare militarily—an assessment WSWS has long held.

Since the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, the US has pursued the goal of remaining the “sole world power.” To this end, Washington has waged numerous criminal wars and expanded NATO into Eastern Europe. Now it also wants to integrate Ukraine, Georgia and other former Soviet republics into NATO and subjugate Russia in order to plunder its resources and isolate China.

Under these circumstances, Merkel and Hollande organized the Minsk agreement—as Merkel now admits—to freeze the conflict and buy time. The agreement included a cease-fire, the withdrawal of heavy weapons, and the establishment of a security zone, monitored by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The Ukrainian government pledged to amend the constitution to allow special status for Donetsk and Luhansk and grant them greater autonomy.

NATO used the “valuable time” (Merkel) gained by this terror to rebuild, arm to the teeth, and train the Ukrainian armed forces. For example, according to a British parliamentary report, the British Army has trained and equipped Ukrainian soldiers since 2014. Ukraine has not formally become part of NATO but is doing so in practice.

Russia's decision to take military action against Ukraine was the predictable—and intended—reaction to this NATO offensive. That does not make it any less reactionary. The Putin regime represents the interests of the Russian oligarchs who looted the Soviet Union's socialised property and are at war with the Russian working class.

Since the beginning of the war, they have been flooding Ukraine with state-of-the-art weaponry. They provide logistical support, determine attack targets, direct the fighting, and operate secretly in Ukraine with their own elite troops. They stifle any attempt at a negotiated solution. In reality, NATO has long been waging a war against the nuclear power Russia, risking the nuclear annihilation of mankind.

War, sanctions: jan7 "Cuba, Nicaragua and now Bolivia are the countries that deny me entry." says Víctor González, a right-wing lawmaker from the Spanish party Vox

The Civic Committee of Santa Cruz invited González and Sánchez to Bolivia to get a first-hand look at the situation following the detention of Camacho.

A judge on Friday ordered four months of pre-trial detention for Camacho after prosecutors alleged the governor in 2019 orchestrated what they describe as a coup while leading mass protests following elections that the Organization of American States said were marred by fraud. The unrest resulted in 37 deaths.

The opposition, which characterizes Camacho's detention as a "kidnapping," has long disputed the government's characterization of the 2019 unrest as a coup. It argues that the events were legitimate political protests that led to the resignation of then-President Evo Morales.

Camacho's detention has sparked protests and clashes with law enforcement. Leaders in Santa Cruz, the country's wealthy agribusiness

center that is widely considered to be Bolivia's economic engine, have called for a blockade to prevent goods from reaching the rest of the country.

Media, censorship, stats: jan7 Woman charged with repeatedly poisoning her veteranarian husband

<https://apnews.com/article/crime-wisconsin-homicide-4600a5916f5becd5442ac2871c0e0a06>

censorship, middle east, islam: jan7 Saudi Arabia jails two Wikipedia staff in 'bid to control content'

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/jan/05/saudi-arabia-jails-two-wikipedia-staff-in-bid-to-control-content>

stats, middle east, war, iran: Much of Iraq's current leadership consists of Iran-aligned politicians, according to al-monitor

Erdogan, war: conversation Turkish embassy requests U.S. government use name "Republic of Turkiye" in communications in place of Turkey...

Turkey asked last year for its name to be changed to Turkiye in international forums and most, including the United Nations and NATO, had switched to the new spelling.

The State Department, however, does not often change its style on the names of foreign countries and, in at least one notable case, has refused to do so for decades.

The U.S. still refuses to refer to Burma as Myanmar although the country's military rulers formally adopted Myanmar in 1989.

The last two countries that the State Department renamed following requests by their governments were North Macedonia, which changed its name from Macedonia in 2019, and Eswatini, which changed its name from Swaziland a year earlier.

Tech, stats: read later: Most Important Science Headlines Of 2022

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/science-headlines-of-2022>

middle east, war, markets: taliban signs first major deal since taking power in 2021 after what has been called america's longest foreign occupation, agreeing to open the northern Afghanistan Amu Darya basin to China's Xinjiang Central Asia Petroleum



War, stats: jan7 exactly what looking for on bases; more on bases, basically

A new [Quincy Institute study](#) by American University's [David Vine](#) and World Beyond War's [Patterson Deppen](#) and [Leah](#)

[Bolger](#) details the global US military presence. Washington has nearly three times as many bases as embassies and consulates. America also has three times as many installations as all other countries combined. The United Kingdom has 145. Russia two to three dozen. China five. Although the number of US facilities has fallen in half since the end of the Cold War, the number of nations hosting American bases has doubled. Washington is as willing to station forces in undemocratic as democratic countries.

The study figures the annual cost of this expansive base structure to be about \$55 billion. Adding increased personnel expenses takes the total up to \$80 billion. Wealthier countries, which needlessly enjoy what amounts to defense welfare, typically cover a portion of the cost through “host nation support.” Not so Washington’s newest clients. Indeed, through the Global War on Terror over the last two decades the US military spent as much as \$100 billion on new construction, mostly in countries, like Iraq and Afghanistan, which were financial black holes.

750 Bases in 80 Countries Is Too Many for Any Nation: Time for the US to Bring Its Troops Home

Ending US security guarantees and avoiding fights not America’s own would allow Washington to shutter many existing military facilities.

OCTOBER 4, 2021 • COMMENTARY

By [Doug Bandow](#)

SHARE

This article appeared in [Antiwar.com](#) on October 4, 2021.

[TOP](#)

President Joe Biden did what his three predecessors could or would not: halt a seemingly endless war. It took two decades, but American troops no longer are fighting in Afghanistan.

An important aspect of the US withdrawal was closing Washington's bases, which once spread across the country. Uncle Sam left Bagram Air Base, America's biggest facility in Afghanistan, on his way home.

However, some 750 American military facilities remain open in 80 nations and territories around the world. No other country in human history has had such a dominant presence. Great Britain was the leading colonial power, but its army was small. London had to supplement its own troops with foreign mercenaries, as in the American Revolution. In wars with great powers Britain provided its allies with financial subsidies rather than soldiers.

Previous empires, such as Rome, Persia, and China, were powerful in their own realms but had little reach beyond. The latter never reached outside Asia. Persia was twice halted by the Greek city states. As great as Rome became, its writ never went much beyond the Mediterranean, with Central Europe, North Africa, and the Mideast its boundaries. The New World remained beyond the knowledge let alone control of all three.

Ending US security guarantees and avoiding fights not America's own would allow Washington to shutter many existing military facilities.

A new [Quincy Institute study](#) by American University's [David Vine](#) and World Beyond War's [Patterson Deppen](#) and [Leah Bolger](#) details the global US military presence. Washington has nearly three times as many bases as embassies and consulates. America also has three times as many installations as all other countries combined. The United Kingdom has 145. Russia two to three dozen. China five. Although the number of US facilities has fallen in half since the end of the Cold War, the number of nations hosting American bases has doubled. Washington is as willing to station forces in undemocratic as democratic countries.

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Although American bases face intense local opposition in some areas, such as Okinawa, facilities are seen as welcome money-makers in others. When President Donald Trump proposed pulling US forces out of Germany many locals' [greatest concern was economic](#). Indeed, the [whining of local politicians](#) who saw America's presence as a financial rather than security issue was loud enough to be heard across "the Pond." Not only did they believe that Americans owed them military protection. In their view Americans also had a duty *to bolster their economies*.

However, the price of Washington's globe-spanning is more than economic. Explained Vine, et al.: "These bases are costly in a number of ways: financially, politically, socially, and environmentally. US bases in foreign lands often raise geopolitical tensions, support undemocratic regimes, and serve as a recruiting tool for militant groups opposed to the US presence and the governments its presence bolsters. In other cases, foreign bases are being used and have made it easier for the United States to launch and execute disastrous wars, including those in Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, Somalia, and Libya."

Perhaps the most expensive installations were those established in Saudi Arabia after the first Gulf War. By renting out members of the US military as bodyguards for the Saudi royals Washington underwrote one of the most vile dictatorships in existence, [a veritable totalitarian state](#) with no political, religious, or social liberty. Although Crown Prince Mohammed "Slice & Dice" bin Salman, [responsible for](#) the murder and dismemberment of [Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi](#) three years ago, has loosened some social strictures, he has greatly [tightened political controls](#).

Worse from a foreign policy standpoint, [America's presence](#) is one of the grievances which motivated Osama bin Laden to target the US Then Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz [admitted in](#) February 2003, before the invasion of Iraq, that America's regional presence had cost "far more than money." US bombing of Iraq and US troops in Saudi Arabia had "been Osama bin Laden's principal recruiting device." After the planned invasion, he added: "I can't imagine anyone here wanting to ... be there for another 12 years to continue helping recruit terrorists."

Perhaps the most serious price of endless bases has been endless wars. Obviously, causation is complex. However, going to war usually leads to creation of new facilities. Such installations encourage a continuing military presence. Existence of nearby bases reduces the marginal cost of intervening and increases the maximal temptation to make new commitments, meddle in local controversies, and enter nearby conflicts. Observed the Quincy study: "Since 1980, US bases in the greater Middle East have been used at least 25 times to launch wars or other combat actions in at least 15 countries in that region alone. Since 2001, the US military has been involved in combat in at least 25 countries worldwide."

American military facilities also raise expectations of host and neighboring nations. After Iran attacked Saudi oil facilities in September 2019 the well-pampered Saudi royals expected US retaliation but were [sorely disappointed](#). Although President Donald Trump was right to allow the Saudis to "fight their own wars," as he had tweeted five years before, America's military presence, which Trump had increased, encouraged Riyadh to expect more – and might have motivated a more conventional president to act.

Vine, et al. point to other costs as well. The Department of Defense is a terrible environmental actor. Although its practices have much improved in recent years, the accumulated damage is enormous. There also are questions about Washington's tendency to load up US territories, such as Guam, with military installations. Such areas are not exactly foreign, but the Quincy report contended that the heavy base presence "helped perpetuate their colonial relationship with the rest of the United States and their peoples' second class US citizenship."

Alas, DOD is less than forthcoming about the number of bases it maintains overseas. According to the report: "Until Fiscal Year 2018, the Pentagon produced and published an annual report in accordance with US law. Even when it produced this report, the Pentagon provided incomplete or inaccurate data, failing to document dozens of well-known installations. For example, the Pentagon has long claimed it has only one base in Africa – in Djibouti. But research shows that there are now around 40 installations of varying sizes on the continent; one military official acknowledged 46 installations in 2017."

The Biden administration should make rationalizing the US base network a priority. Indeed, this should be an integral part of the Global Posture Review that the president announced in his February speech to State Department employees. [He explained](#) that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin would lead the process "so that our military footprint is appropriately aligned with our foreign policy and national security priorities. It will be coordinated across all elements of our national security."

The initial task should be publicly listing military installations and their purposes. Then facilities should be consolidated, even if doing so angers local politicians and communities. After all, this process should be relatively painless overseas, [in contrast to](#) domestic base closures, which inevitably trigger fevered local and congressional opposition.

The next step would be tougher but necessary. The administration should rethink the underlying commitments used to justify the bases. Europe has no need of a US military presence for defense: the continent enjoys an 11-1 economic advantage and more than 3-1 population edge over Russia. South Korea has a 55-1 economic and 2-1 population superiority over the North. The Mideast Gulf monarchies are well-armed and now working with Israel as well as each other. Washington's presence in Iraq is unnecessary, since it and its neighbors could together confront any remaining threats from the Islamic State. America's intervention in the Syrian civil war never made sense. The Marine Expeditionary Force stationed on Okinawa is tied to Korean rather than Chinese contingencies and America's bases there unfairly burden the local population.

Ending US security guarantees and avoiding fights not America's own would allow Washington to shutter many existing military facilities. Halting endless wars in the Mideast would diminish the importance of logistical nodes in Germany and elsewhere. In appropriate cases the US could replace its bases with emergency access to foreign facilities to deal with unexpected contingencies. In broad sweep Washington should move from frontline to reserve status around the world.

The international threat environment has changed dramatically since the end of World War II, yet America's global network persists. The impact of the Soviet collapse and Warsaw Pact dissolution was too great not to have eliminated some US facilities, but otherwise the Pentagon has been reluctant to leave existing bases.

The only sure way to close a local installation, it seems, is to lose a war, as in Vietnam and Afghanistan. That needs to change. America no longer can afford to garrison the globe. The Biden administration should make the US into a normal country again. And that means no more imperial legions stationed around the world for purposes other than America's defense.

War, middle east, stats: jan7 despite seeing an unprecedented six-month-long ceasefire and a significant drop in fatalities, Saudi Arabia-led international coalition destroys over 14,300 homes, 12 hospitals, 64 schools, and 22 power stations in Yemen in just 2022 according to Yemen-based Eye for Humanity Centre for Rights and Development

According to the Eye for Humanity report, in the last seven years of the Yemen war, **bombings** carried out by the Saudi-led coalition have killed **17,734 people** and injured close to 30,000. According to the data, at least 4,017 deaths were of children.

Health Minister Taha Moutawakil [claimed last month](#) that at least "**80 newborn babies die every day due to the lack of medical equipment and medicines**" amid the blockade imposed on Yemeni people.

The Saudi-led coalition has imposed **a comprehensive land, sea and air blockade of Yemen since 2015**, purportedly to prevent the supply of weapons. However, the blockade prevents the inflow of essential supplies including food and medicines to Yemen, which is heavily dependent on imports.

UNICEF issued a report [last month](#) claiming that around **11,000 Yemeni children have been either killed or maimed** due to the war in the country

Censorship, stats, government: jan7 [it's an unelected beurocracy with literally no oversight. smart person breaks it down quickly and precisely](#)

"While this may be the most egregious case of alleged corruption the European Parliament has seen in many years," [explained](#) Michiel van Hulten, director of Transparency International EU, "it is not an isolated incident."

"Over many decades, the Parliament has allowed a culture of impunity to develop, with a combination of lax financial rules and controls and a complete lack of independent (or indeed any) ethics oversight. In many ways it has become a law unto itself. Every serious attempt to improve accountability is blocked by the Parliament's ruling Bureau, with the acquiescence of a majority of MEPs. **The recent backroom deal approved by the Bureau to appoint a**

new EP Secretary-General is emblematic of an institution that thinks that rules for ethics and integrity should only apply to others.... As a first step, the European Commission should now publish its long-delayed proposal on the creation of an independent EU ethics body, with powers of investigation and enforcement."

This situation has been perfectly understood by Qatar, which published the following [statement](#) as soon as possible retaliatory measures were announced following discovery of the alleged corruption:

"The decision to impose... a discriminatory restriction that limits dialogue and cooperation on Qatar before the legal process has ended, will negatively affect regional and global security cooperation, as well as ongoing discussions around global energy poverty and security."

The blackmail is clear.

War, Russia, stats: jan7 About 4,000 members of the US Army's 101st Airborne Division are still deployed in Romania as part of a military buildup in Eastern Europe that President Biden ordered last year; deployment marks the first time the 101st has been sent to Europe since World War II

The military buildup in Eastern Europe has brought US troop levels on the continent to **over 100,000 for the first time since**



Stats, media: jan7 6-Year-Old Shoots Teacher At Virginia Elementary School

Censorship: jan7 Doctors shutdown on linkin for misinfo, allow back on after removal shown to be based on false pretenses/assumption

[LinkedIn abruptly shut down](#) mRNA vaccine pioneer-turned-critic Robert Malone's premium account in June 2021 when he mentioned the spike in the context of heart inflammation reports among young men. Malone later said a [LinkedIn "senior executive" personally apologized](#) for the wrongful removal.

these doctors could be part of the deception somehow. Never trust any MSM narrative. I still think they are going to release something worse when mistrust in government and covid vaccines reaches some kind of critical mass.

As you probably know, world-famous doctors and scientists and researchers like Dr. Robert Malone, Dr. Peter McCullough, Dr. Naomi Wolf, and Dr. Andrew Huff appear on my TV show regularly to explain the complete failure of the COVID vaccines and the dangers of mRNA shots — just in case you need to spoof the names of real doctors in the future.

Stats, censorship, tech, ai, government: jan7 read later, important: SCIENCE HAS BEEN BUREAUCRATIZED, AND BUREAUCRACIES AREN'T INNOVATIVE: Innovation in Science Is on The Decline And We're Not Sure Why. While previous research has shown downturns in individual disciplines, the study is the first that "emphatically, convincingly documents this decline of disruptiveness across all major fields of science

and technology,” lead author Michael Park told AFP.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-022-05543-x>

history, health, vaccine, stats: In 1996, following an epidemic, Pfizer tested a new drug on 200 children in Muslim Nigeria. Eleven children died while others were disabled.

Following a meningitis epidemic in 1996, Pfizer conducted human trials of an experimental antibiotic on 200 children in the Muslim state of Kano in Northern Nigeria. Eleven children died and multiple children were disabled following the trials. In 2000, a reporter at The Washington Post published an exposé alleging Pfizer’s fault in the children’s deaths and for unethical medical trials. The news sent shockwaves throughout Nigeria, sparking a series of protests led by Muslim religious leaders alleging that Pfizer and “the West” were trying to kill Muslims with medicines and calling for boycotts of vaccinations among Muslims. The subsequent reduction in routine child vaccination among Muslim mothers set back global polio eradication efforts by over a decade; negative effects lasted for up to 12 years after the initial disclosure. The event provides evidence to study the effects of negative news about vaccination on vaccine hesitancy and noncompliance.

Stats, journal, vaccine, history: the bextra story for the early 2000's, at the time the largest pharma settlement in history, seems connected to the pharma sales culture of get rich or die tryin attitude that existed at that time. Back then, and probably still today, pharmacuetical sales was MASSIVE MONEY, and they were known for being shady as fuck

On September 2, 2009, the [United States Department of Justice](#) fined Pfizer \$2.3 billion after one of its [subsidiaries](#), Pharmacia & Upjohn Company, pleaded guilty to marketing four drugs including Bextra "with the intent to defraud or mislead."^[9] Pharmacia & Upjohn admitted to criminal conduct in the promotion of Bextra, and agreed to pay the largest criminal fine ever imposed in the United States for any matter, \$1.195 billion.

^[10] A former Pfizer district sales manager was [indicted](#) and sentenced to home confinement for destroying documents regarding the illegal promotion of Bextra.^{[11][12]} In addition, a Regional Manager pleaded guilty to distribution of a mis-branded product, and was fined \$75,000 and twenty-four months on probation.^[13]

The remaining \$1 billion of the fine was paid to resolve allegations under the civil [False Claims Act](#) case and is the largest civil fraud settlement against a pharmaceutical company. Six whistle-blowers were awarded more than \$102 million for their role in the investigation.^[14] Former Pfizer sales representative John Kopchinski acted as a [qui tam](#) relator and filed a complaint in 2004 outlining the illegal conduct in the marketing of Bextra.^[15] Kopchinski was awarded \$51.5 million for his role in the case because the improper marketing of Bextra was the largest piece of the settlement at \$1.8 billion.^[16]

Vaccine, censorship: jan7 January 6,
2023Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
finally lifts vaccine mandate requiring all of it's 6000
workers to be vaccinated in order to keep their jobs; 8
employees who refused the vaccine offered chance to
get jobs back..

MBTA to rehire unvaccinated workers after rescinding policy

Media, stats: hilarious example of school violence in
America..



BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

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January 6, 2022

Dear Mayor Wu,

Our Boston Public Schools should be a sanctuary for our students, a place where families feel safe to send their children and teachers feel safe to go to work. No student should ever be placed in a situation where they fear for their safety or are sexually threatened. Last year's audit of Boston Public Schools, by the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, reported that the BPS system does not support the physical, social, and emotional well-being of all students and does not ensure a safe environment for all students and staff. DESE found that the district's system for managing and responding to these incidents is not responsive to parent and guardian concerns. This has led to many not believing that BPS prioritizes all students' physical, social, and emotional well-being and safety.

Although the school system has promised to communicate more openly when incidents happen, and make bold changes to ensure that our students and staff are safe at school, this school year has not been much different. During the 2021-2022 school year, there were 440 reported incidents of bullying and 744 sexual assaults reported. There have been many disturbing incidents at our schools, and on our school buses this school year. Stabbings, gun shots, bullying, physical attacks, loaded guns and sexual assaults have been happening across the City. The first day back from winter break a teacher at Young Achievers was walking a student home who was afraid for her safety. Once outside the building they were jumped by three girls who repeatedly punched them, and as the teacher shielded the student with her body she was kicked repeatedly. After receiving several blows to the head and face the teacher and student were transported to the hospital. Reports like these are very disturbing.

With all the recent, tragic incidents in schools nationally, it's clear that sensible, timely communication regarding dangerous school situations is more important than ever. Now is the time for law enforcement and BPS to cooperate, rather than alienate. We understand that there are differing opinions around the role of police officers in our schools, but there should be no question among City and State Education Officials about returning non-invasive technology such as metal detectors, and having police officers present in our schools. We hope you will agree that we need School Police to be reinstated into our Boston Public School buildings for the safety of our students, our staff and all of our BPS families.

Sincerely,

Erin J. Murphy
Boston City Councilor
At Large

President Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor
D2

Michael Flaherty
Boston City Councilor
At Large

Frank Baker
Boston City Councilor D3

<https://twitter.com/ErinforBoston/status/1611476972076507136>

government: jan7 21 holdouts force House of Representatives to 10th speaker ballot for first time since 1859, McCarthy receives 200 votes, leaving him 17 short of the 217 necessary for him to become Speaker of the House; All 212 Democrats support incoming House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York; some representative in republican party joking refering to republican holds as "terrorists"

inflation: french small business with 190 employees and 9 factories to scale down 80% due to inflation
jan7

40 million euros of energy bill

Cofigeo is caught between two fires. Its first problem is energy, which should cost it ten times more. Next year, the bill should increase from four to 40 million euros. According to information from Europe 1, this soaring price should only entitle it to modest state aid, as the company is not considered to consume enough energy.

Rising raw material costs

The other problem is the rising cost of raw materials such as the price of durum wheat or tomatoes which are difficult to pass on to selling prices.

Stats, vaccine, health: jan7 look into if this is real or not: "Myocarditis Was 4 cases per Million, Now 25K Per Million?!"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_A._McCullough

<https://twitter.com/cuttheshite/status/1611046072864112641>

Myocarditis Was 4 cases per Million, Now 25K Per Million?!

January 6, 2023 8:35 pm by IWB

Sharing is Caring!

by Chris Black

WHAT????

That's 1 in 40 FYI.

twitter.com/cuttheshite/status/1611046072864112641

>it's safe and effective!

□

>okay it doesn't stop infection but it stops transmission!

>okay it doesn't stop transmission but it keeps you from getting sick!

>okay you still get sick but it's not as bad as non-jabbed getting sick!

>okay there are some people having side effects but it's extremely rare and not serious

>okay some of those side effects are irreversible heart damage but it's very rare

okay the irreversible heart damage is not that rare but if we present it like this it doesn't look as bad

stats, markets, energy: jan6 **we export 128 billion worth of petroleum products to the united states**

<https://energy-information.canada.ca/en/indicators>

markets, energy, inflation, government, war, sanctions: jan6

The natural gas market began the new year with very strong production and low demand, relative to normal weather. Production quickly recovered from the Christmas freeze-offs and is back near 99-100 Bcf/d, while demand has fallen through the floor amid above-normal temps across much of the country that are expected to last through the next two weeks.



The EU has imposed unprecedented sanctions against Russia in response to the **unprovoked and unjustified invasion of Ukraine** on 24 February 2022 and the illegal annexation of Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions.

They add to existing measures imposed on Russia since 2014 following the annexation of Crimea and the non-implementation of the Minsk agreements.

What goods cannot be imported from Russia to the EU?

- **crude oil** (from December 2022) and **refined petroleum products** (from February 2023), with limited exceptions

As the majority of the Russian oil delivered to the EU is seaborne, these **restrictions will cover nearly 90% of Russian oil imports to Europe** by the end of 2022. This will significantly reduce Russia's trade profits.

The EU has also adopted sanctions against:

- **Belarus**, in response to its involvement in the invasion of Ukraine
- **Iran**, in relation to the use of Iranian drones in the Russian aggression against Ukraine

EU leaders stressed at the European Council on 23-24 June 2022 that **Russia is solely responsible for the global food crisis** and that EU sanctions do not target food and agricultural products. Food security and affordability are a key priority for the EU and its member states.

In total, also taking into account earlier individual sanctions imposed after the annexation of Crimea in 2014, the EU has sanctioned 1386 individuals and 171 entities.

What goods cannot be exported to Russia from the EU?

The list of sanctioned products includes among others:

- cutting-edge **technology** (e.g. quantum computers and advanced semiconductors, high-end electronics and software)
- certain types of machinery and **transportation** equipment
- specific goods and technology needed for **oil refining**
- **energy** industry equipment, technology and services
- **aviation and space industry** goods and technology (e.g. aircraft, aircraft engines, spare parts or any kind of equipment for planes and helicopters, jet fuel)
- **maritime navigation** goods and radio communication technology
- a number of **dual-use goods** (goods that could be used for both civil and military purposes), such as drones and software for drones or encryption devices
- **luxury goods** (e.g. luxury cars, watches, jewellery)
- civilian firearms and other army materiel

What goods cannot be imported from Russia to the EU?

The list of sanctioned products includes among others:

- **crude oil** (from December 2022) **and refined petroleum products** (from February 2023), with limited exceptions
- **coal** and other solid fossil fuels
- **steel**, steel products and iron
- **gold**, including jewellery
- cement, wood, paper and plastics
- seafood and liquor (e.g. caviar, vodka)
- cigarettes and cosmetics

In addition, the EU **banned the export to Russia of goods and technology in the aviation and space industry. three-quarters of Russia's current commercial air fleet were produced in the EU, the US or Canada**

EU has **closed its ports to Russia's entire merchant fleet** of over 2 800 vessels

The EU has **prohibited the maritime transport of Russian crude oil** (from 5 December 2022) **and petroleum products** (from 5 February 2023) to third countries. It has also prohibited the related provision of technical assistance, brokering services or financing or financial assistance. This ban doesn't apply if the crude oil or petroleum products are purchased at or below the oil price cap.

Won't give Russia's foreign currency reserves back if they are in a central bank that is located in the European Union

The European Union has **prohibited all transactions with the National Central Bank of Russia** related to the management of the Russian Central Bank's reserves and assets. As a result of the central bank asset freeze, the central bank can no longer access the assets it has stored in central banks and private institutions in the EU.

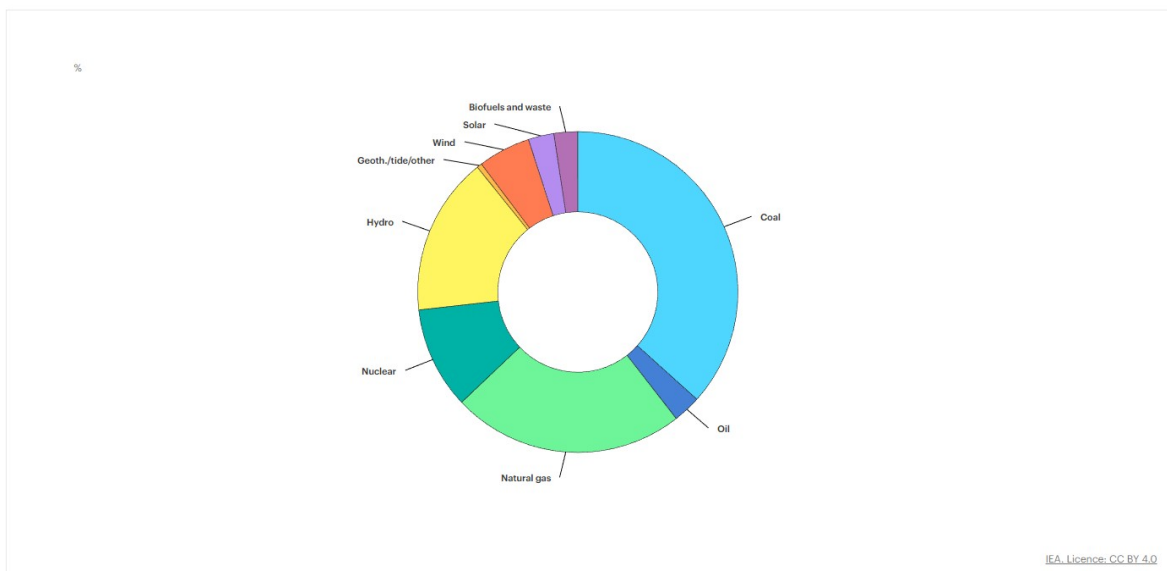
In December 2022, the EU added the Russian Regional Development Bank to the list of Russian state-owned or controlled entities that are subject to a full transaction ban.

In February 2022, Russia's international reserves accounted for \$643 billion (€579 billion). Among other purposes, having reserves in foreign currencies helps keep the exchange rate of a country's own currency stable.

Due to the ban on transactions from the EU and other countries, **it is estimated that more than half of Russian reserves are frozen**. The ban was also imposed by other countries (such as the US, Canada and the UK) which also store a share of Russia's foreign reserves.

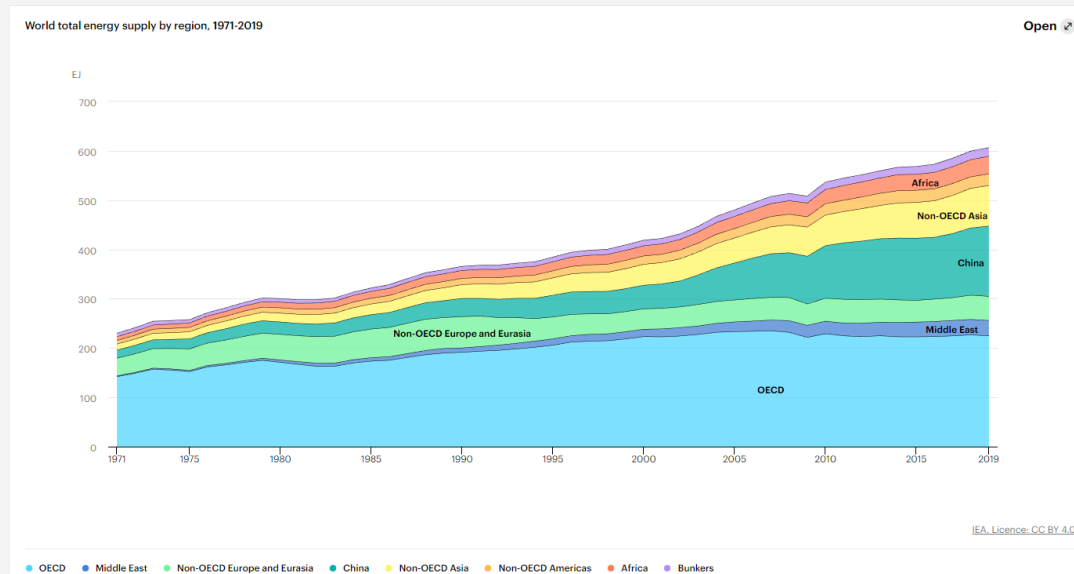
Consequently, Russia cannot use this cushion of foreign assets to provide funds to its banks and thus limit the effects of other sanctions. Even the gold reserves stored in Russia now appear to be more difficult to sell due to international sanctions affecting Russian entities.

Sanctions, Russia, war, energy: jan6 finland



<https://www.iea.org/data-and-statistics/charts/world-gross-electricity-production-by-source-2019>

World total energy supply by region



<https://www.iea.org/reports/key-world-energy-statistics-2021/supply>

The delays in the construction of the third reactor at the [Olkiluoto Nuclear Power Plant](#) (est. 1,600 MWe when completed), which was projected to be operating commercially by 2010 but is now being estimated to be completed no earlier than 2022, have caused a significant domestic energy production deficit. A consortium of Finnish industry and power companies called [Fennovoima](#) has applied and been granted a permission to build another [new nuclear power plant](#), delivered by Russia's [Rosatom](#), which also has a 1/3 stake on the power plant. This has caused some concern among observers about Russia being able to manipulate Nordic electricity prices or use the power plant as a leverage in conflict situations. The plant was estimated to be operational by 2024 and projected to produce 1,200 MW of electricity, but all work was stopped in 2022 due to the [Russian invasion of Ukraine](#).^[29]

The [Finnish Security Intelligence Service](#) (Supo) indicated in 2016 that foreign intelligence activity in Finland was aimed at influencing decision-making in energy policy.^[30]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electricity_sector_in_Finland

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanhikivi_Nuclear_Power_Plant

middle east, war, stats: [Updated 7:10 AM EDT, Fri April 14, 2017] US drops largest non-nuclear bomb in Afghanistan; the first time the bomb has been used since it was first developed 15 years ago

WashingtonCNN —

The US military dropped America's most powerful non-nuclear bomb on ISIS targets in Afghanistan Thursday, the first time this type of weapon has been used in battle, according to US officials.

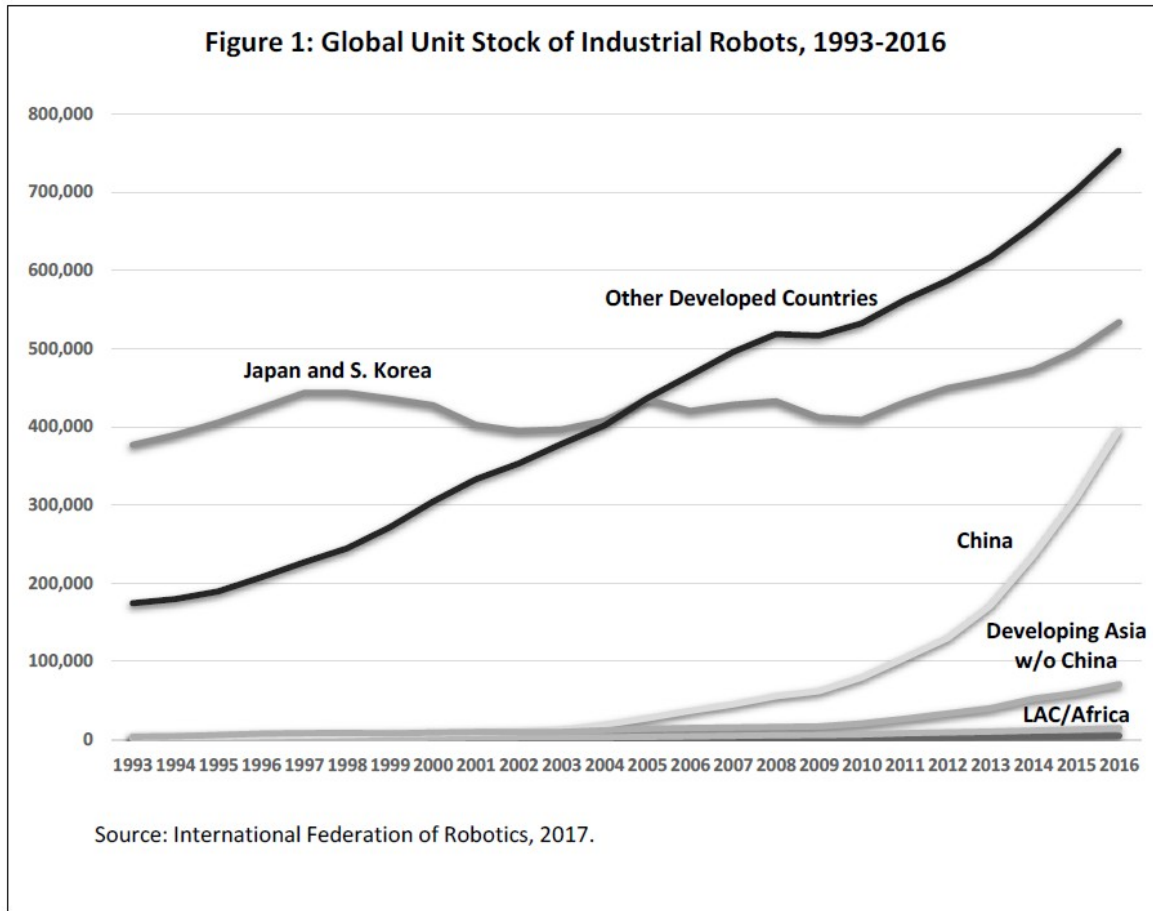
A GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast Bomb (MOAB), nicknamed the "mother of all bombs," was dropped at 7:32 p.m. local time, according to four US military officials with direct knowledge of the mission.

cnndotcom/2017/04/13/politics/afghanistan-isis-moab-bomb/index.html

[stats](#), [tech](#), [government](#), [china](#), [ai](#): **what i was looking for: "AUTOMATION, EMPLOYMENT, AND RESHORING - ILO", April, 2020**

ina: jan5

The purported risk of potential automation by computer-controlled equipment in the next ten years or so is 99% for hand sewers, 89% for sewing machine operators, and 95% for electrical and electronic equipment assemblers. These figures are high because the occupations are classified as being comprised largely of routine work that is judged to be more amenable to automation. Since developing countries have much higher shares of such occupations than developed countries, the method inevitably yields the result that the country-wide share of jobs at high risk (70% or greater) of potential automation is considerably higher in developing than developed countries.



For 2015, apparel exports for the European Union (EU) totaled \$112 billion—second only to China—compared to \$6 billion for the United States. The much larger volume of exports from the European Union 28 than the United States is striking, suggesting that EU producers have been much better at holding their own in global markets than their counterparts in the United States.⁶ Yet employment has dropped sharply in both the EU and the United States since 2000: by 42% in the former and 66% in the latter. While in 2000, the European Union 28 and United States accounted for 30% of employment in the industry among these ten exporters, this plummeted to just 9% around 2015, a massive compositional shift in employment in such a short span of time.

Table 1: Exports and Formal Employees in Top 10 Apparel Exporters

	Exports, 2015 US\$, billions	Formal employees, 2000 ¹	Formal employees, around 2015 ²
China	175	3,284,000	7,661,200
Bangladesh	26	1,037,310	2,827,468
Vietnam	22	511,364	2,314,288
Hong Kong, China	18	28,200	11,650
India	18	469,195	1,342,454
Turkey	15	164,212	563,593
Indonesia	7	761,183	787,782
Cambodia	6	203,612	N/A
Total: Developing	287	6,459,076	15,508,435
EU 28	112	2,279,365	1,314,928
US	6	498,472	167,223
Total: Developed	118	2,777,837	1,482,151

Sources: WTO, World Trade Statistical Review, 2016; Refers to SITC 84: Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, and does not include footwear.
 UNIDO, INDSTAT2, 2017: Refers to ISIC (rev. 4) 14 and 15: Wearing apparel, fur, leather, leather products and footwear.
 Note 1: Bangladesh, 1998.
 Note 2: China, 2014; Bangladesh, 2011; Vietnam, 2014; Hong Kong, China, 2015; India, 2015; Turkey, 2015; Indonesia, 2015; EU 28, 2015, except Ireland, 2012; Malta, 2011; Slovenia, 2014; US, 2015.

Stats, ai, tech: jan5 Google's Medical AI Detects Lung Cancer With 94% Accuracy

"The whole experimentation process is like a student in school," said Tse. "We're using a large data set for training, giving it lessons and pop quizzes so it can begin to learn for itself what is cancer, and what will or will not be cancer in the future. We gave it a final exam on data it's never seen after we spent a lot of time training, and the result we saw on final exam — it got an A."

<https://interestingengineering.com/innovation/googles-medical-ai-detects-lung-cancer-with-94-accuracy>

tech, ai, stats: The first fully-functional prototype of the ASKA A5 electric drive and fly Vertical Takeoff and Landing (eVTOL) vehicle was introduced at CES 2023, ASKA A5 is the size of an SUV and the world's first four-seater electric vehicle that can travel by road and up to 250 miles by air on a single charge.

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/aska-unveils-worlds-first-drive--fly-evtol---aska-a5-at-ces-2023-las-vegas-301713240.html>

stats: In the U.S. alone, there are around 15,000 airfields with runways

<https://interestingengineering.com/innovation/this-evtol-size-of-an-suv>

tech, ai, stats: cool website for 3-d printers:
<https://3dprintingindustry.com/>

journal: nice way to introduce a topic from an interesting engineering article.

How is the Ability Hand built? What is the science and engineering behind it? What can its wearer accomplish? How flame-resistant is it? This video answers all these questions and gives a live demonstration of the hand in action.

War, Erdogan: jan5 PKK's armed defense force, the HPG, claims to have killed 2900 turkish soldiers in 2022

The People's Defense Forces (HPG), the armed wing of the PKK, [claimed](#) that 2,942 Turkish soldiers were killed and 408 injured during their attacks against the Turkish

The YPG is the backbone of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), a mostly-Kurdish force in Syria that fought the lion's

share of the battle against the Islamic State (ISIS) and ultimately territorially defeated the terror group in 2019.

More than 500 villages have been [emptied](#) in the Kurdistan Region over three decades of the Turkey-PKK conflict.

rudawdotnet/english/middleeast/04012023

war, stats, islam: jan5 [Myanmar's military honours Wirathu, leader of the extremist anti-muslim 969 Movement, frees prisoners](#)

The monk, Wirathu, was awarded the honorific “Thiri Pyanchi” title for his “outstanding work for the good of the Union of Myanmar”, the military’s information team said on Tuesday, ahead of the country’s independence day celebrations.

He has called for boycotts of Muslim-owned businesses and restrictions on marriages between Buddhists and Muslims.

Human rights groups have accused [Wirathu of helping to whip up animosity](#) towards the Rohingya community, laying the foundations for a military operation in 2017 that forced an estimated 740,000 Rohingya to flee over the border to Bangladesh.

Myanmar has been [in chaos since the military's coup in February 2021](#) saw the democratically elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi and her detention along with other key officials. The military has also responded to pro-democracy protests and dissent with deadly force, imprisoning thousands and fighting a growing conflict with an anti-coup movement that has resulted in hundreds of thousands of people displaced.

The UN Security Council last month adopted its first resolution on Myanmar in 74 years, demanding an end to violence in the country and for the military regime to free all political detainees. China and Russia abstained from the security council resolution, as did India.

Canada, the European Union, the UK and the US are among those who have imposed sanctions on Myanmar's military and individuals deemed to have assisted the regime.

Censorship, islam, iran: jan5 [iran pissed off about french cartoonist's latest edition making fun of their Ayatolla](#)

The weekly had published dozens of cartoons ridiculing the highest religious and political figure in the Islamic republic as part of a competition it launched in December in support of the three-month-old protest movement.

"The insulting and indecent act of a French publication in publishing cartoons against the religious and political authority will not go without an effective and decisive response," tweeted Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian.

Media, markets, censorship: [they try to make it about him..](#)

As for Citadel Securities, regular readers are quite familiar with it (not least [because of their threat to sue Zerohedge](#) for suggesting it was frontrunning client orderflow just days before securities regulator [FINRA accused](#) it of doing just that) as a global market-making operation that handles more than 20% of the shares that change hands in U.S. stock markets each day. The business, which also trades futures, options, Treasuries and currencies, benefits from increased volumes and volatility, as well as reduced liquidity allowing it to pocket huge bid/ask spreads and prosper even when markets fall.

To be sure, most other hedge funds have had a rougher year. As we noted yesterday, Goldman told its prime-brokerage clients that hedge funds betting on and against stocks lost an average 12.9% for the year, on an asset-weighted basis, while the S&P 500 lost about 18% including dividends.

	MSCI TR	Fundamental L/S (Weighted Average)			Systematic L/S (Weighted Average)		
		Total	Beta	Alpha	Total	Beta	Alpha
Dec '22	-4.25%	0.39%	-2.25%	2.64%	0.58%	0.23%	0.35%
Nov '22	6.95%	3.93%	3.51%	0.42%	-0.28%	0.09%	-0.37%
Oct '22	7.18%	1.40%	1.78%	-0.38%	0.47%	0.72%	-0.25%
Q4 '22	9.77%	5.73%	3.05%	2.68%	0.77%	1.04%	-0.27%
Q3 '22	-6.19%	-0.97%	-1.57%	0.60%	1.02%	-1.97%	2.99%
Q2 '22	-16.19%	-8.53%	-6.09%	-2.44%	4.28%	-0.65%	4.94%
Q1 '22	-5.15%	-9.11%	-3.08%	-6.03%	9.72%	-0.43%	10.15%
2022	-18.14%	-12.88%	-7.70%	-5.19%	15.79%	-2.01%	17.80%
2021	21.82%	0.62%	12.32%	-11.70%	23.65%	-0.94%	24.59%
2020	15.90%	22.53%	15.64%	6.89%	-3.18%	-1.48%	-1.70%

	Fundamental L/S Total Returns		
	Weighted Avg	Simple Avg	Median
Dec '22	0.4%	0.1%	-0.1%
2022	-12.9%	-2.0%	-4.0%

Citadel's flagship multi-strategy fund, Wellington, returned 38.1% by contrast. Previous reports from the WSJ revealed that commodities made up more than 60% of the second-quarter gross investment gains for Wellington.

But even more remarkably, **all of Citadel's five strategies—fixed income and macro, commodities, equities, quant and credit—were profitable for the year**, according to WSJ sources. That was evident in the returns of its three other hedge funds, which notched gains of more than 20%. One of the funds, Citadel Equities, was up 21.4% for the year. Unable to keep up with its newfound wealth, Citadel returned about \$8.5 billion in profits to its investors Dec. 31, up from the \$7 billion it earlier expected.

Rivals Millennium Management and Point72 Asset Management gained 12.4% and 11.8% for the year, respectively. D.E. Shaw Group's flagship multi-strategy fund, Composite, returned about 24.7%.

Censorship, war, Africa: this is how it goes in other parts of the world: "Tanzania's President Hassan Ends Six-Year Ban on Opposition Rallies"; law forced bloggers, social media influencers and online platforms to apply for a licence and pay a one-time fee of \$930 to keep their sites up.

The ban was proscribed by former President John Magufuli in 2016 during his first term. Initially meant to apply to all political parties, critics said it targeted only the opposition.

In 2018, the Magufuli-led government passed a law forcing bloggers, [social media](#) influencers and online platforms

to [apply for a licence](#) and pay a one-time fee of \$930 to keep their sites up.

Three years on, Hassan took office after the death of Magufuli who was nicknamed “The Bulldozer” by many who said he curbed free speech and targeted dissidents.

The incumbent president is constitutionally serving the remainder of Magufuli’s second five-year term, which ends in 2025.

Middle east, stats, markets, energy: Iraq Oil Revenues Top \$115 Billion in 2022 jan5

Censorship, government, middle east: Jan5they just openly steal billions in USD in developing or wartorn countries. same hing happened in nigeria: they didn't even try to hide! They just stole th money, barely even tried to cover it up, then nobody got into trouble

Iraq said Tuesday it had recovered another \$2.6 million in public funds fraudulently withdrawn from a government account, but the money is still only a fraction of the \$2.5 billion that disappeared.

According to a document from the country's tax authority, the \$2.5 billion was allegedly expropriated between September 2021 and August last year through 247 cheques cashed by five enterprises.

The money was subsequently withdrawn from the companies' accounts, the document showed.

The owners of those accounts -- most of whom are on the run -- are subject to arrest warrants.

In November, Sudani said Nour Zuhair Jassem, a wealthy businessman implicated in the theft from tax authorities, had given back part of more than \$1 billion that he "confessed" to having received. Released on bail, the man has returned \$211.6 million in several payments.

The top echelons of power routinely evade accountability in Iraqi corruption cases.

War, history: The Battle of Kashmir: Rebels in Indian-administered Kashmir have been fighting New Delhi's rule since 1989; Indian officials said at least 172 suspected rebels and 26 armed forces personnel were killed in fighting last year; New Delhi regularly blames Pakistan for supporting the rebels, an allegation denied by Islamabad; in 2019, India removed Kashmir's partial autonomy status

The 2019 move – and subsequent [laws and policies](#) – have strengthened anti-India sentiments in the valley and led to a [wave of attacks](#) by suspected rebels against the region's minority communities, mainly the Hindus.

Tens of thousands of civilians, rebels and government forces have been killed in the decades-old conflict.

India bars Kashmiri journalist Sanna Irshad Mattoo from flying to the United States to receive her Pulitzer Prize

The Kashmiri journalist was prevented from flying to the US to receive the prestigious Pulitzer Prize.

"This was a once-in-a-lifetime moment for me to go for receiving the Pulitzer Prize. But I was stopped without any reason. I am very heartbroken and disappointed." Sanna told Al Jazeera.

The media is operating in a climate of fear, with the homes of several journalists raided and some summoned by police

for questioning – which observers describe as an attempt to silence the press from reporting about realities in the region.

The strategy appears to be working. Analysts said that the government's controversial orders are being overlooked by the media, while state-sponsored events promoting the administration's picture of Kashmir are covered on the front pages in local and national media.

The arrest of two journalists, Sajad Gul and Fahad Shah early this year under the controversial Public Safety Act (PSA), a law under which a person can be imprisoned for up to two years without a trial, has further frightened journalists. Both of them have been shifted to distant jails making it difficult for their families to reach them.

They were arrested for “spreading false narratives” and “glorifying terrorism”.

Stats, middle east: conversationDheisheh Camp, 2018, refugee camp in palistine, population 8000



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dheisheh>

Akram Shafout, 47, an activist from the camp, told Middle East Eye the night raid on Dheisheh camp started around four in the morning, sparking confrontations with local youths.

Shafout said that the raid began with special forces in civilian cars entering the camp, followed soon by “hundreds” of armed soldiers and a convoy of military vehicles.

Palestinian media said the army arrested one resident of the camp after raiding their home. During the raid, groups of local youth - reportedly including Ayyad - confronted the soldiers with rocks.

Israeli media reported Palestinians throwing Molotov cocktails and said one soldier was “lightly injured”. Meanwhile, Israeli forces opened fire at several Palestinians, with the army reporting that “suspects were hit”.

“As the soldiers were pulling out of the camp they started to use live ammunition, and that is when Adam was killed,” said Shafout.

"It was not the 'violent riot' that they [the Israeli army] described. These boys are throwing rocks at fully armoured vehicles. The soldiers' lives are not in danger."

War, history, stats: jan5 1948 Arab-Israeli War: The 1948 (or First) Arab-Israeli War was the second and final stage of the 1948 Palestine war. It formally began following the end of the British Mandate for Palestine at midnight on 14 May 1948

-On 29 November 1947, the [United Nations General Assembly](#) adopted a resolution recommending the adoption and implementation of a plan to partition the British Mandate of Palestine into two states, one Arab and one Jewish, and the City of Jerusalem.^[31]

The [General Assembly resolution on Partition](#) was greeted with overwhelming joy in Jewish communities and widespread outrage in the Arab world. In Palestine, violence erupted almost immediately, feeding into a spiral of reprisals and counter-reprisals. The British refrained from intervening as tensions boiled over into a low-level conflict that quickly escalated into a [full-scale civil war](#).^{[32][33][34][16][35][36]}

-In 1948 [more than 700,000 Palestinian Arabs](#) – about half of prewar [Palestine's](#) Arab population – [were expelled or fled from their homes](#),^{[1][2][3][4][5][6][7][8]} during the [1948 Palestine war](#).^[9] The exodus was a central component of the fracturing, dispossession and displacement of Palestinian society, known as the [Nakba](#),^{[10][11]} in which between [400 and 600 Palestinian villages](#) were destroyed, village wells were poisoned in a [biological warfare](#) programme to prevent Palestinians returning,^[12] and other sites subject to [Hebraization of Palestinian place names](#),^[13] and also refers to the wider period of war itself and the subsequent oppression up to the present day.^[14]

-the 29 November 1947 adoption of the [United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine](#) – which planned to divide Palestine into an Arab state, a Jewish state, and the [Special International Regime](#) encompassing the cities of [Jerusalem](#) and [Bethlehem](#)

-On 15 May 1948, the civil war transformed into a conflict between Israel and the Arab states following the [Israeli Declaration of Independence](#) the previous day. Egypt, Transjordan, [Syria](#), and expeditionary forces from Iraq entered Palestine.^{[18][19][20][21]} The invading forces took control of the Arab areas and immediately attacked Israeli forces and several Jewish settlements.^{[22][23][24]} The 10 months of fighting took place mostly on the territory of the British Mandate and in the [Sinai Peninsula](#) and [southern Lebanon](#), interrupted by several truce periods.^[25]

-As a result of the war, the State of Israel controlled the area that the UN had proposed for the Jewish state, as well as almost 60% of the area proposed for the Arab state,^[26] including the [Jaffa](#), [Lydda](#) and [Ramle](#) area, [Upper Galilee](#), some parts of the [Negev](#) and a wide strip along the [Tel Aviv-Jerusalem](#) road. Israel also took control of [West Jerusalem](#), which was meant to be part of an international zone for Jerusalem

and its environs. Transjordan took control of [East Jerusalem](#) and what became known as the [West Bank](#), [annexing it the following year](#), and the Egyptian military [took control](#) of the Gaza Strip. At the [Jericho Conference](#) on 1 December 1948, 2,000 Palestinian delegates called for unification of Palestine and Transjordan as a step toward full Arab unity.^[27] The conflict triggered significant demographic change throughout the Middle East. Around 700,000 Palestinian Arabs [fled or were expelled](#) from their homes in the area that became Israel, and they became [Palestinian refugees](#)^[28] in what they refer to as the [Nakba](#) ("the catastrophe"). A similar number of Jews moved to Israel during the three years following the war, including [260,000 from the surrounding Arab states](#).^{[29][30]}

Arab forces

At the invasion: In addition to the local irregular Palestinian militia groups, the five Arab states that joined the war were [Egypt](#), [Transjordan](#), [Syria](#), [Lebanon](#) and [Iraq](#) sending expeditionary forces of their regular armies. Additional contingents came from [Saudi Arabia](#) and [Yemen](#). On the eve of the war, the available number of Arab troops likely to be committed to war was between 23,500 and 26,500 (10,000 Egyptians, 4,500 Jordanians, 3,000 Iraqis, 3,000–6,000 Syrians, 2,000 [ALA](#) volunteers, 1,000 Lebanese, and several hundred Saudis), in addition to the irregular Palestinians already present. Prior to the war, Arab forces had been trained by British and French instructors. This was particularly true of Jordan's Arab Legion under command of Lt Gen Sir John Glubb.^[121]

Syria bought a quantity of small arms for the [Arab Liberation Army](#) from [Czechoslovakia](#), but the shipment never arrived due to Haganah force intervention.^[122]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1948_Arab%E2%80%93Israeli_War

stats, church: Bethlaham, the biblical birthplace of Jesus, is located 777 meters above sea-level

censorship: jan5 read later: pizer corrupted logged and compiled by twitter user

investmentwatchblogdotcom/pfizer-twitter-user-puts-together-thread-chain-exposing-deep-levels-of-corruption/

censorship, tech, government: read later: apple breaking privacy rules again, apparently. too lazy to read it right now: "Apple Is Tracking You Even When Its Own Privacy Settings Say It's Not, New Research Says"

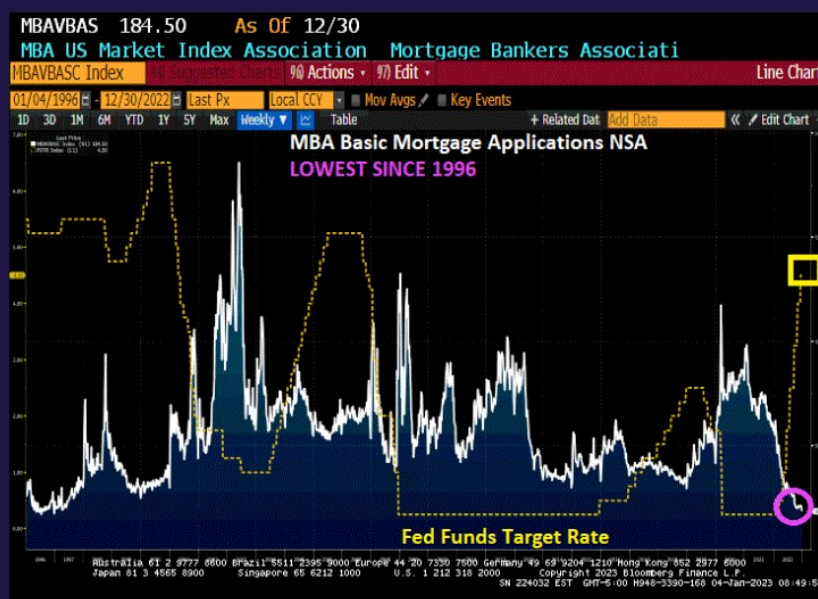
https://twitter.com/mysk_co/status/1588308341780262912?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1588308341780262912%7Ctwgr%5E4369c0cbf343e1f167598b910a48520dc2eb1020%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https

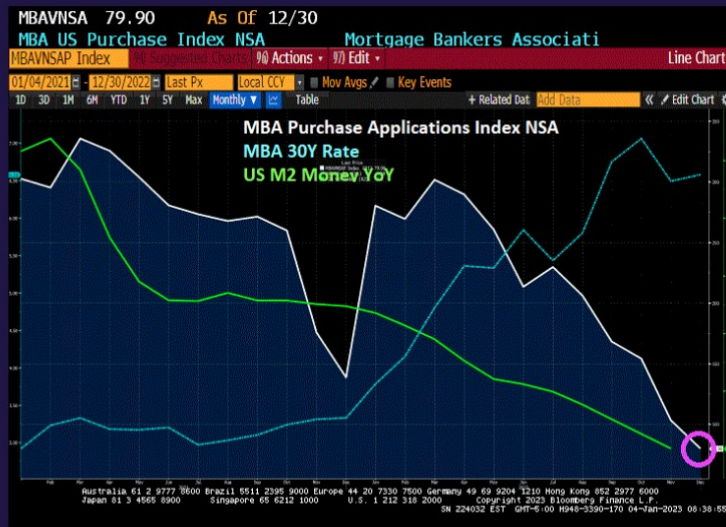
%3A%2F%2Fwww.globalresearch.ca%2Fapple-tracking-you-even-when-its-own-privacy-settings-say-its-not-new-research-says%2F5798653

<https://gizmodo.com/apple-iphone-analytics-tracking-even-when-off-app-store-1849757558>

stats, ads: jan5 Greenwashing also called "green sheen", is a form of advertising or marketing spin in which green PR and green marketing are deceptively used to persuade ...; 68% of U.S. execs admit their companies are guilty of greenwashing

inflation, housing, markets: jan5 Mortgage Applications Dropped To Lowest Since 1996 As Purchase Applications Drop -22.2% WoW, -38.5% 2WoW, -42% YoY (Refi Apps Down -87% YoY)





History, stats, rome, government **The Annona (grain dole) was begun under the instigation of the popularis politician Gaius Sempronius Gracchus in 123 BCE; it remained an object of political contention until it was taken under the control of the autocratic Roman emperors.**

Ancient Rome[[edit](#)]

Further information: [Grain supply to the city of Rome](#) and [Populares](#)

This phrase originates from Rome in [Satire X](#) of the Roman satirical poet Juvenal (c. 100 CE). In context, the [Latin](#) *panem et circenses* ([bread](#) and [circuses](#)) identifies the only remaining interest of a Roman populace that no longer cares for its historical birthright of political involvement. Here Juvenal displays his contempt for the declining [heroism](#) of contemporary Romans, using a range of different themes, including lust for power and desire for old age to illustrate his argument.^[6] Roman politicians passed laws in 140 CE to keep the votes of poorer citizens by introducing a grain dole: giving out [cheap food](#) and [entertainment](#), "bread and circuses", became the most effective way to rise to power.

*[...] iam pridem, ex quo
suffragia nulli / vendimus,
effudit curas; nam qui dabat
olim / imperium, fasces,*

... Already long ago, from when we sold
our vote to no man, the People have
abdicated our duties; for the People who
once upon a time handed out military

*legiones, omnia, nunc se /
continet atque duas tantum
res anxius optat, / panem et
circenses. [...]*

—Juvenal, Satire 10.77–81

command, high civil office, legions —
everything, now restrains itself and
anxiously hopes for just two things: bread
and circuses.^[7]

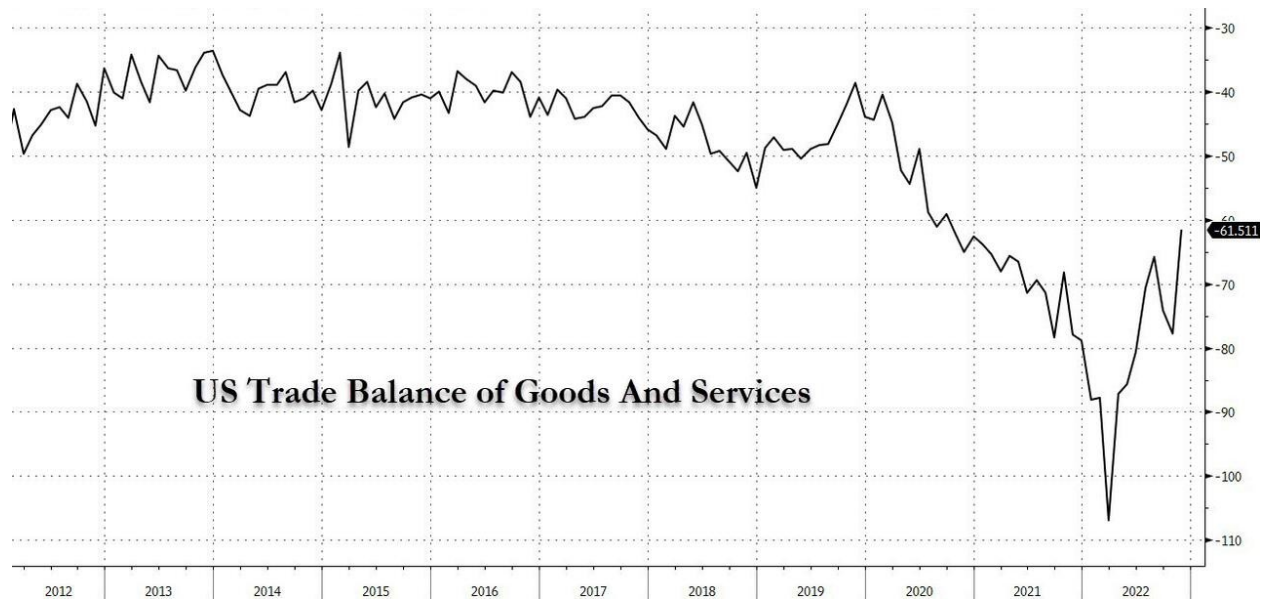
Juvenal here makes reference to the Roman practice of providing free wheat to Roman citizens as well as costly [circus games](#) and other forms of entertainment as a means of gaining [political power](#). The *Annona* (grain dole) was begun under the instigation of the *popularis* politician [Gaius Sempronius Gracchus](#) in 123 BCE; it remained an object of political contention until it was taken under the control of the autocratic [Roman emperors](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bread_and_circuses

government, Africa, vaccine: read later: PFIZER'S HISTORY OF
FRAUD, CORRUPTION, AND USING NIGERIAN
CHILDREN AS 'HUMAN GUINEA PIGS'

<https://kanekoa.substack.com/p/pfizers-history-of-fraud-corruption>

stats, markets, china: jan5 part of the feds unwind? "20% one-
month decline in the deficit was the single biggest
drop in the US trade deficit on a percentage basis
going back to the global financial crisis"



And while it would have been welcome economic news if the drop in the deficit was the result of a surge in exports, **the plunge was driven not by rising exports but rather by shrinking imports - a telltale sign of economic slowdown** - with consumer goods, industrial supplies, capital goods and autos all contributing to the decline, the US Bureau of Economic Analysis said. To wit, while exports fell 2% in Nov. to \$251.9BN from \$257.0BN in Oct, imports fell a striking 6.4% in Nov. to \$313.4BN from \$334.8BN in Oct. Here are the details:

expect a jump in Q4 GDP estimates due to a plunge in US imports due to the slowdown in US consumer demand for foreign goods and services serving to boost GDP due to the way net trade is imputed for GDP purposes (look into what that means)

censorship, tech, media: jan5 **200 million Twitter users' private information, including their email addresses, was put for sale after a breach exposed 400 million users' private information in the last week of December 2022**

tracing back to the hack, it seems the same vulnerability was used for another exploit in July 2022.

Stats, tech, government, censorship: jan5 [isp user data retention broken down simply by expert](#)

Usually, internet providers keep telecommunication data, tracking data, and website data. That is, your internet provider keeps a record of the websites you visit, their URLs, the duration of your visit, and the bandwidth used.

Some internet providers can even go ahead and keep a record of the details of the websites you visit. Generally, your internet providers can record all your online activities.

Legally, internet providers must delete your history after the stipulated period elapses.

However, this might not be the case. Even if they delete your data, you will have new data if you continue to use the service.

Also, some internet providers may keep your data longer depending on their storage and even the operational cost it covers, for instance, advertisements.

Summary

Due to the mandatory data retention laws enforced in many countries, internet service providers must keep your history for a specified time.

If you are a privacy-conscious individual, you can limit the information your internet provider gets from your history. This is by using a VPN anytime you surf the internet.

privacyaffairsdotcom/how-long-isp-keep-my-history/

**Markets, energy, Germany, sanctions, war:
Jan.3rd: The first regular shipment of liquefied
natural gas from the United States has arrived
in Germany**

Vaccine, china, health: (April 10, 2022 7:00 am ET) Shanghai Has Recorded More Than 130,000 Covid Cases—and No Deaths

In a Covid-19 outbreak that has [locked 25 million people at home](#), the city of Shanghai has reported more than 130,000 cases since March 1, but says there have been no deaths and currently only one patient with severe illness.

[wsj.com/articles/shanghai-has-recorded-more-than-130-000-covid-cases-and-no-deaths-11649588402](https://www.wsj.com/articles/shanghai-has-recorded-more-than-130-000-covid-cases-and-no-deaths-11649588402)

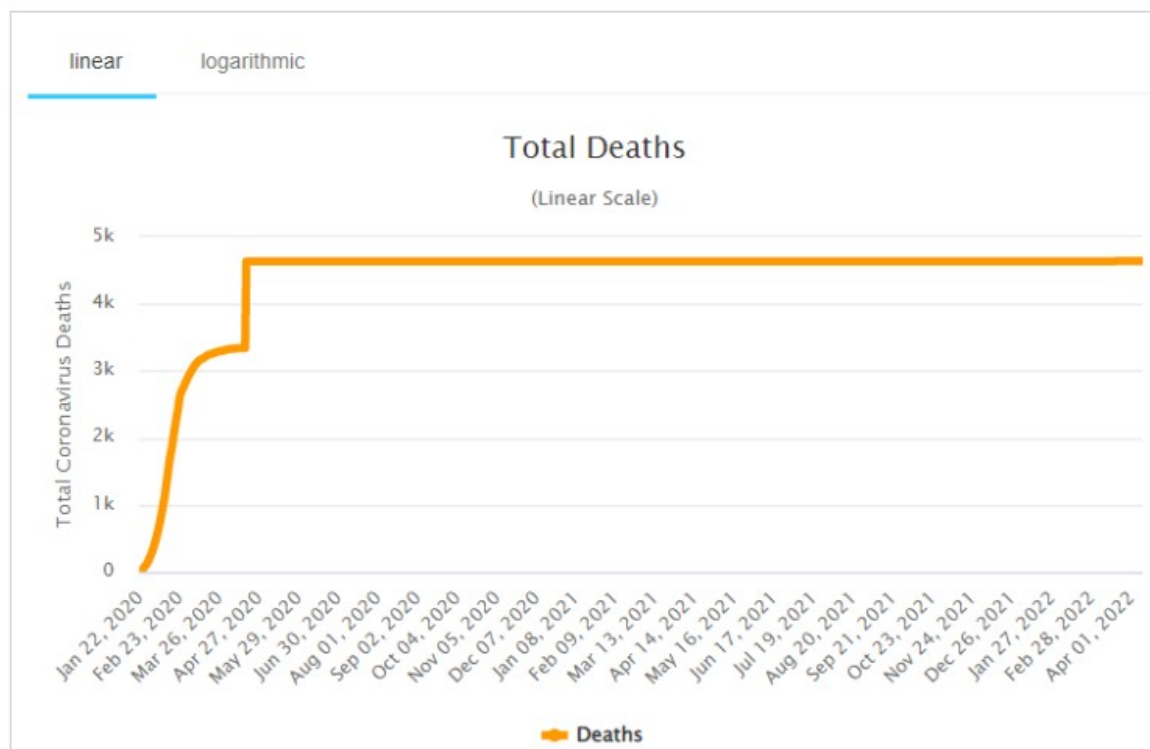
china, vaccine: good writer breaks down something I haven't been following: china's impossible to reckon covid death rate. He also wrote a bok that I'd love to read: "Snake Oil: How Xi Jinping Shut Down the World"

The Wall Street Journal published a piece titled "[Shanghai Has Recorded More Than 130,000 Covid Cases—and No Deaths](#)." Seeing the darkly comic headline, I was excited. Finally, after two years, the WSJ appeared to be calling out the data fraud that was the foundation for this whole sordid experiment in totalitarian virus mitigation, however belatedly.

Alas, my excitement was premature. As it turns out, the authors of the article tie themselves into knots to explain China's data. They even trot out Ryan Tibshirani, co-leader of Carnegie Mellon's COVID-19 modeling team, to tell us that China's death rate "can also be affected by factors like the age distribution and racial makeup of its population, vaccination status, type of vaccine and average distance to a healthcare facility," the implication being that Prof. Tibshirani sees nothing wrong with China's data, thank you very much.

Apparently, China's low vaccination rate among its elderly population means they can have 130,000 cases and zero deaths. Make it make sense. "Science!"

Total Coronavirus Deaths in China



I guess Mr. Tibshirani sees this as the more likely explanation than that the world's most dishonest regime is simply lying. Unfortunately, he's far from alone in his backhanded advocacy for the integrity of the Chinese Communist Party.

For two years, the elite journalists, scientists, politicians, and health officials who speak for our most prestigious institutions have been conspicuously and vehemently deferential to the integrity of China's Covid data. Here's

what the New York Times' David Leonhardt wrote just two months ago:

BRIEFING | Zero Covid in China

Data coming out of China can be suspect, and local officials apparently undercounted Covid cases early in the pandemic to hide the scale of the outbreak. But most experts believe the country's official Covid counts have been at least close to accurate for most of the past two years.

That's partly because big outbreaks are hard to cover up, and partly because China's leadership has threatened to punish officials who hide cases. As Amy Qin, a Times correspondent who covers China, told us, "Local officials have every incentive to find the infections and stop the spread before they get out of hand."

Well, now, in Shanghai, we have a "big outbreak" which the CCP has not covered up—but the death data coming out is still manifestly fraudulent. Would the *New York Times* care to revisit their conclusion that "the country's official Covid counts have been at least close to accurate...because big outbreaks are hard to cover up"?

Perhaps it shouldn't come as a surprise that these elites want, so badly, for China's Covid data to be real, because for two years they've been imploring their citizens to emulate China, scoffing at our childish attachment to human rights and civil liberties.

Here's [Rochelle Walensky](#), shortly before assuming office as Director of the US CDC:

Dr. Rochelle Walensky: Well, that's actually my biggest challenge with it is. I think that this is what Sweden tried to do. This was their plan. What we know from Sweden is that their death rate, their per capita death is 591 per million that rivals the United States at 593 per million, to give you a sense of what lockdowns were able to do in other countries. And I mean, really strict lockdowns. In China, their death rate is three per million. So when you look at what Sweden was trying to do and what they are trying to emulate in Sweden, it didn't work. They were unable to protect them.

And here's former Surgeon General Jerome Adams just two months ago:



Jerome Adams ✓
@JeromeAdamsMD

...

Replying to [@karol](#)

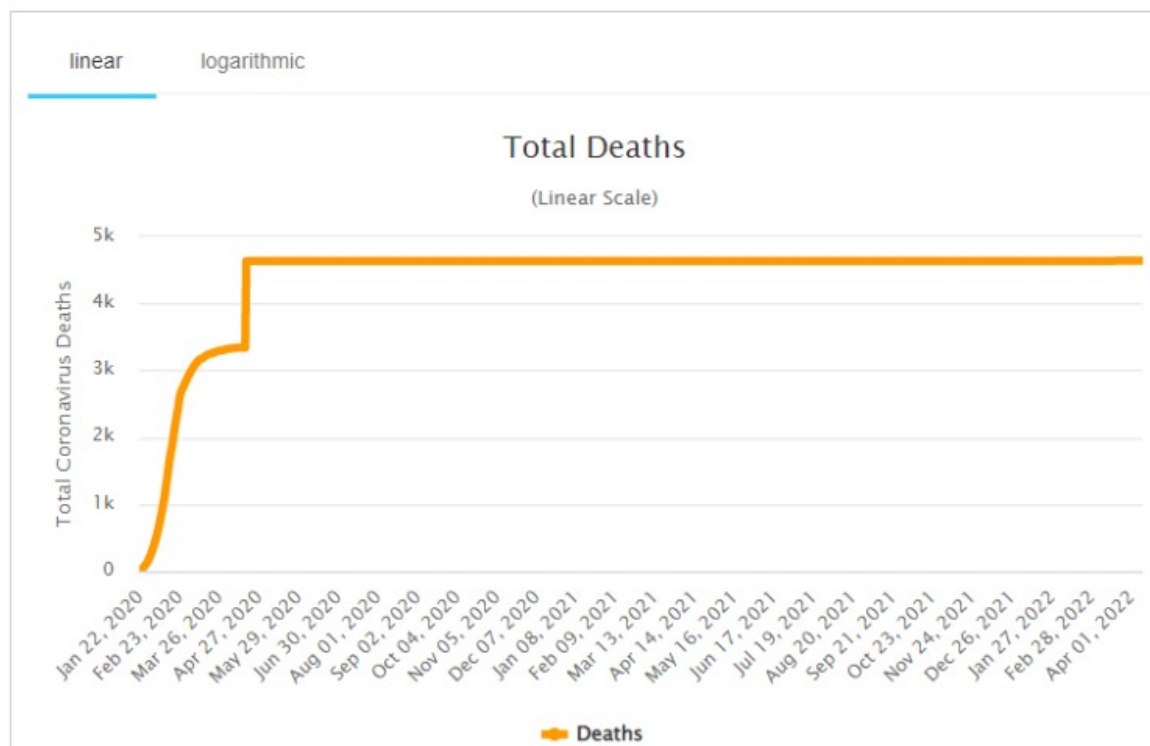
You don't really want to know an answer to this question. You want to be contrary. New Zealand. Singapore. China- where the virus started. All maintained lower rates than we did pre-vaccine. They had surges but quickly controlled them. Not just with masking but with mitigation.

6:29 AM · Feb 1, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

6 Retweets 70 Quote Tweets 44 Likes

Something tells me these leaders might take a different view on the quality of China's data if it was their own lives—or the lives of their own children—that depended on it. But they've shown no qualms in staking the lives of millions of their fellow citizens on the quality of this graph.

Total Coronavirus Deaths in China

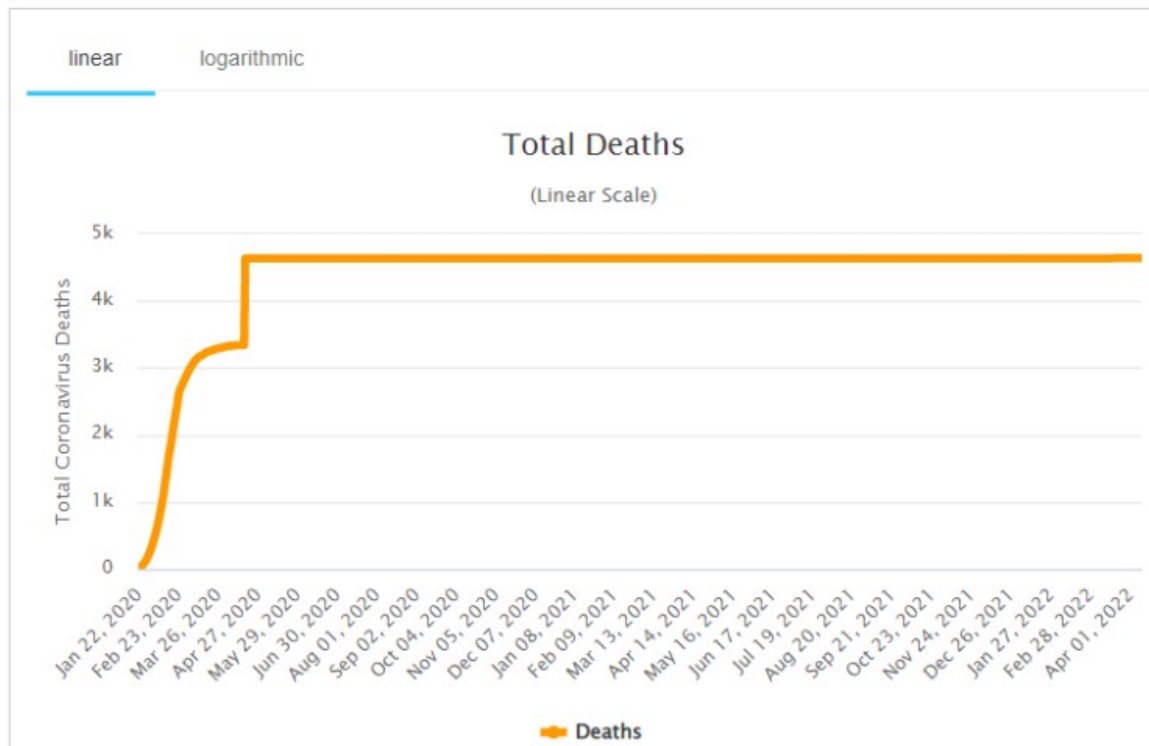


By demanding western elites conform to a false reality in which they had to pretend China's data was real, the CCP forced them into a referendum as to whom they were truly loyal—China, or their own people. In the vast majority of cases, they chose China. And two years on, even amid the horrific spectacle of China's lockdown of Shanghai, they remain too cowardly and morally vacuous to reconsider their choice.

Even among lockdown skeptics, many can't accept that public health officials could possibly be that incompetent. It all seems too dumb, too banal. But since March 2020, every single pandemic policy—from the strict [lockdowns](#) and [masks](#) to the [tests](#), death [coding](#), and [vaccine passes](#)—has been imported from China based on the idea that these “extreme social-control measures” had effectively [allowed](#) China to “control the virus.”

In an Orwellian “[war on COVID misinformation](#),” those who pointed out that China's data was obviously fake were vilified by their own governments as alt-right racists, neo-Nazis, and anti-vaxxers—even if fully-vaccinated. They were [censored](#), professionally ostracized, and, as I experienced firsthand, had their social media accounts purged. Hundreds of millions were thrown into poverty, millions of small businesses were bankrupted, an entire generation of children was forced to isolate and cover their faces, and billions of life years were lost, all in service to the collective fantasy encapsulated by this graph.

Total Coronavirus Deaths in China



Reprinted from the author's Substack

Stats: 94% of the global population is younger than 70 years and 86% is younger than 60 years
[sciencedirectdotcom/science/article/pii/S001393512201982X](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S001393512201982X)

markets, government, stats:
premium article that I'd like to read, saving to hopefully find later: "Here Are The Best And Worst Hedge Funds Of 2022"

[zerohedgedotcom/markets/here-are-best-and-worst-performing-hedge-funds-2022](https://www.zerohedge.com/markets/here-are-best-and-worst-performing-hedge-funds-2022)

war: jan5 french send "first western tanks"; west has held back on sending either tanks or fighter jets to avoid a direct confrontation with russia; keep sending old equipment, though

While NATO allies have gradually increased the sophistication of weaponry shipped to Kiev, including longer range missiles and more recently Patriot systems approved by the US, they have stopped short of sending either tanks or fighter jets, largely on fears of Moscow expanding the war in response.

The AFP has described the French-made AMX-10 RC as an older light model tanks which the French infantry used in the 1980s, but has since been phased out.

Bloomberg was the first to report last week that "The US government is considering sending Bradley Fighting Vehicles to Ukraine as part of a further package of military support, according to people familiar with the matter."

Censorship, stats: Taibbi: Summaries Of All 'Twitter Files' To Date (they are telling us that we are censored and can't do anything about it THROUGH THE LEAKS. YES, THROUGH THE LEAK. They WANT us to know.

1. [Twitter Files Part 1](#): December 2, 2022, by [@mtaibbi](#)

TWITTER AND THE HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP STORY

Recounting the internal drama at Twitter surrounding the decision to block access to a *New York Post* exposé on Hunter Biden in October, 2020.

Key revelations: Twitter blocked the story on the basis of its “hacked materials” policy, but executives internally knew the decision was problematic. “Can we truthfully claim that this is part of the policy?” is how comms official Brandon Borrman put it. Also: when a Twitter contractor polls members of Congress about the decision, they hear Democratic members want more moderation, not less, and “the First Amendment isn’t absolute.”

- 1a. [Twitter Files Supplemental](#), December 6, 2022, by [@mtaibbi](#)

THE “EXITING” OF TWITTER DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL JIM BAKER

A second round of Twitter Files releases was delayed, as new addition Bari Weiss discovers former FBI General Counsel and Twitter Deputy General Counsel Jim Baker was reviewing the first batches of Twitter Files documents, whose delivery to reporters had slowed.

2. [Twitter Files Part 2](#), by [@BariWeiss](#), December 8, 2022

TWITTER’S SECRET BLACKLISTS

Bari Weiss gives a long-awaited answer to the question, “Was Twitter shadow-banning people?” It did, only the company calls it “visibility filtering.” Twitter also had a separate, higher council called SIP-PES that decided cases for high-visibility, controversial accounts.

Key revelations: Twitter had a huge toolbox for controlling the visibility of any user, including a “Search Blacklist” (for Dan Bongino), a “Trends Blacklist” for Stanford’s Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, and a “Do Not Amplify” setting for conservative activist Charlie Kirk. Weiss quotes a Twitter employee: “Think about visibility filtering as being a way for us to suppress what people see to different levels. It’s a very powerful tool.” With help from [@abigailshrier](#), [@shellenbergermd](#), [@nelliebowles](#), and [@isaacgrafstein](#).

3. [Twitter Files, Part 3](#), by [@mtaibbi](#), December 9, 2022

THE REMOVAL OF DONALD TRUMP, October 2020 - January 6th, 2021

First in a three-part series looking at how Twitter came to the decision to suspend Donald Trump. The idea behind the series is to show how all of Twitter’s “visibility filtering” tools were on display and deployed after January 6th, 2021. **Key Revelations:** Trust and Safety chief Yoel Roth not only met regularly with the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, but with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). Also, Twitter was aggressively applying “visibility filtering” tools to Trump well before the election.

4. [Twitter Files Part 4](#), by [@ShellenbergerMD](#), December 10, 2022

THE REMOVAL OF DONALD TRUMP, January 7th, 2021

This thread by Michael Shellenberger looks at the key day after the J6 riots and before Trump would ultimately be banned from Twitter on January 8th, showing how Twitter internally reconfigured its rules to make a Trump ban fit their policies.

Key revelations: at least one Twitter employee worried about a “slippery slope” in which “an online platform CEO with a global presence... can gatekeep speech for the entire world,” only to be shot down. Also, chief censor Roth argues for a ban on congressman Matt Gaetz even though it “doesn’t quite fit anywhere (duh),” and Twitter changed its “public interest policy” to clear a path for Trump’s removal.

5. [Twitter Files Part 5](#), by [@BariWeiss](#), December 11, 2022

THE REMOVAL OF DONALD TRUMP, January 8th, 2021

As angry as many inside Twitter were with Donald Trump after the January 6th Capitol riots, staffers struggled to suspend his account, saying things like, “I think we’d have a hard time saying this is incitement.” As documented by Weiss, they found a way to pull the trigger anyway.

Key revelations: there were dissenters in the company (“Maybe because I am from China,” said one employee, “I deeply understand how censorship can

destroy the public conversation”), but are overruled by senior executives like Vijaya Gadde and Roth, who noted many on Twitter’s staff were citing the “Banality of Evil,” and comparing those who favored sticking to a strict legalistic interpretation of Twitter’s rules — i.e. keep Trump, who had “no violation” — to “Nazis following orders.”

6. [Twitter Files Part 6](#), by [@mtaibbi](#), December 16, 2022

TWITTER, THE FBI SUBSIDIARY

Twitter’s contact with the FBI was “constant and pervasive,” as FBI personnel, mainly in the San Francisco field office, regularly sent lists of “reports” to Twitter, often about Americans with low follower counts making joke tweets. Tweeters on both the left and the right were affected.

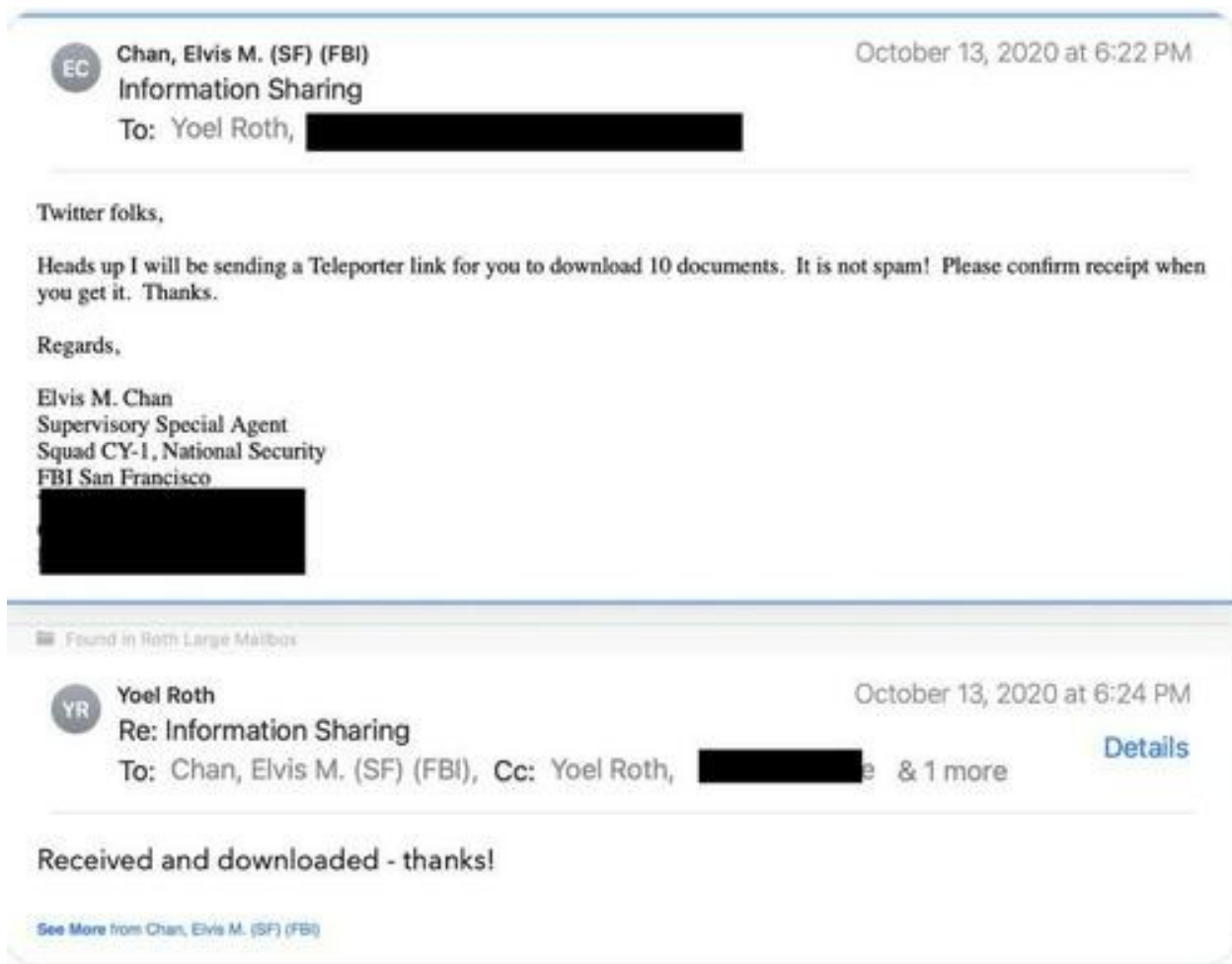
Key revelations: A senior Twitter executive reports, “FBI was adamant no impediments to sharing” classified information exist. Twitter also agreed to “bounce” content on the recommendations of a wide array of governmental and quasi-governmental actors, from the FBI to the Homeland Security agency CISA to Stanford’s Election Integrity Project to state governments. The company one day received so many moderation requests from the FBI, an executive congratulated staffers at the end for completing the “monumental undertaking.”

7. [Twitter Files Part 7](#), by [@ShellenbergerMD](#), December 19, 2022

THE FBI AND HUNTER BIDEN’S LAPTOP

The Twitter Files story increases its focus on the company’s relationship to federal law enforcement and intelligence, and shows intense communication between the FBI and Twitter just before the release of the *Post*’s Hunter Biden story.

Key Revelations: San Francisco agent Elvis Chan “sends 10 documents to Twitter’s then-Head of Site Integrity, Yoel Roth, through Teleporter, a one-way communications channel from the FBI to Twitter,” the evening before the release of the *Post* story. Also, Baker in an email explains Twitter was compensated for “processing requests” by the FBI, saying “I am happy to report we have collected \$3,415,323 since October 2019!”



8. [Twitter Files Part 8](#), by [@lhfang](#), December 20, 2022

HOW TWITTER QUIETLY AIDED THE PENTAGON'S COVERT ONLINE PSYOP CAMPAIGN

Lee Fang takes a fascinating detour, looking at how Twitter for years approved and supported Pentagon-backed covert operations. Noting the company explicitly testified to Congress that it didn't allow such behavior, the platform nonetheless was a clear partner in state-backed programs involving fake accounts.

Key revelations: after the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) sent over a list of 52 Arab-language accounts "we use to amplify certain messages," Twitter agreed to "whitelist" them. Ultimately the program would be outed [in the Washington Post](#) in 2022 — two years after Twitter and other platforms stopped assisting — but contrary to what came out in those reports, Twitter knew about and/or assisted in these programs for at least three years, from 2017-2020.

Lee wrote a companion piece for the *Intercept* [here](#):

9. [Twitter Files Part 9](#), by [@mtaibbi](#), December 24th, 2022

TWITTER AND “OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES”

The Christmas Eve thread (I should have waited a few days to publish!) further details how the channels of communication between the federal government and Twitter operated, and reveals that Twitter directly or indirectly received lists of flagged content from “Other Government Agencies,” i.e. the CIA.

Key revelations: CIA officials attended at least one conference with Twitter in the summer of 2020, and companies like Twitter and Facebook received “OGA briefings,” at their regular “industry” meetings held in conjunction with the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security. The FBI and the “Foreign Influence Task Force” met regularly “not just with Twitter, but with Yahoo!, Twitch, Cloudflare, LinkedIn, even Wikimedia.”

10. [Twitter Files Part 10](#), by [@DavidZweig](#), December 28, 2022

HOW TWITTER RIGGED THE COVID DEBATE

David Zweig drills down into how Twitter throttled down information about COVID that was true but perhaps inconvenient for public officials, “discrediting doctors and other experts who disagreed.”

Key Revelations: Zweig found memos from Twitter personnel who’d liaised with Biden administration officials who were “very angry” that Twitter had not deplatformed more accounts. White House officials for instance wanted attention on reporter Alex Berenson. Zweig also found “countless” instances of Twitter banning or labeling “misleading” accounts that were true or merely controversial. A Rhode Island physician named Andrew Bostom, for instance, was suspended for, among other things, referring to the results of a peer-reviewed study on mRNA vaccines.

11. *and*

12. [Twitter Files Parts 11 and 12](#), by [@mtaibbi](#), January 3, 2023

HOW TWITTER LET THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY IN

and

TWITTER AND THE FBI “BELLY BUTTON”

These two threads focus respectively on the second half of 2017, and a period stretching roughly from summer of 2020 through the present. The first describes how Twitter fell under pressure from Congress and the media to produce “material” showing a conspiracy of Russian accounts on their platform, and the second shows how Twitter tried to resist fulfilling moderation requests for the State Department, but ultimately agreed to let State and other agencies send requests through the FBI, which agent Chan calls “the belly button of the USG.” **Revelations:** at the close of 2017, Twitter makes a key internal decision. Outwardly, the company would claim independence and promise that content

would only be removed at “our sole discretion.” The internal guidance says, in writing, that Twitter will remove accounts “identified by the U.S. intelligence community” as “identified by the U.S.. intelligence community as a state-sponsored entity conducting cyber-operations.”

The second thread shows how Twitter took in requests from everyone — Treasury, HHS, NSA, FBI, DHS, etc. — and also received personal requests from politicians like Democratic congressman Adam Schiff, who [asked to have journalist Paul Sperry suspended](#).

GLOSSARY OF “TWITTER FILES” TERMS

1. *Government Agencies and NGOs*

CISA: The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, an agency within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

CENTCOM: Central Command of the Armed Forces

ODNI: Office of the Director of National Intelligence

FITF: Foreign Influence Task Force, a cyber-regulatory agency comprised of members of the FBI, DHS, and ODNI

“OGA”: Other Government Agency, colloquially — CIA

GEC: Global Engagement Center, an analytical division of the U.S. State Department

USIC: United States intelligence community

HSIN: Homeland Security Information Network, a portal through which states and other official bodies can send “flagged” accounts

EIP: Election Integrity Project, a cyber-laboratory based at Stanford University that sends many reports to Twitter

DFR: Digital Forensic Research lab, an outlet that performs a similar function to the EIP, only is funded by the Atlantic Council

IRA: Internet Research Agency, the infamous Russian “troll farm” headed by “Putin’s chef,” Yevgheny Prigozhin

2. *Twitter or Industry-specific terms*

PII: Can have two meanings. “Personally identifiable information” is self-explanatory, while a “Public Interest Interstitial” is a warning placed over a tweet, so that it cannot be seen. Twitter personnel even use “interstitial” as a verb, as in, “Can we interstitial that?”

JIRA: Twitter’s internal ticketing system, through which complaints rise and are decided

PV2: The system used at Twitter to view the profile of any user, to check easily if it has flags like “Trends Blacklist”

SIP-PES Site Integrity Policy — Policy Escalation Support. SIP-PES is like Twitter’s version of a moderation Supreme Court, dealing with the most high-profile, controversial rulings

SI: Site integrity. Key term that you’ll see repeatedly in Twitter email traffic, especially with “escalations,” i.e. tweets or content that have been reported for moderation review

CHA: Coordinated Harmful Activity

SRT: Strategic Response Team

GET: Global Escalation Team

VF: Visibility Filtering

GUANO: Tool in Twitter’s internal system that keeps a chronological record of all actions taken on an account

VIT: Very Important Tweeter. Really.

GoV: Glorification of Violence

BOT: In the moderation content, an individualized heuristic attached to an account that moderates certain behavior automatically

BME: Bulk Media Exploitation

EP Abuse: Episodic abuse

PCF: Parity, commentary and fan accounts. “PCF” sometimes appears as a reason an account has escaped an automated moderation process, under a limited exception

FLC: Forced Login Challenge. Also called a “phone challenge,” it’s a way Twitter attempts to verify if an account is real or automated. “Phone challenges” are seen repeatedly in discussions about verification of suspected “Russia-linked” accounts

IO: Information Operations, as in *The GEC’s mandate for offensive IO to promote American interests*.

Crypto, government: jan5 You Can Now Live In Lugano Switzerland Solely On Bitcoin

The Plan ☐ foundation recently took to Twitter to announce a new map which showcases the hundreds of merchants across the city that accept bitcoin. “Now you can live in Lugano just using Bitcoin!,” the tweet read. “Find out all you need to enjoy your stay in Lugano through the map with all Lugano’s Plan ☐ merchants.”

<https://bitcoinmagazine.com/culture/live-in-swiss-city-solely-on-bitcoin>

vaccine, health, censorship: Wearing Masks When Ill "Not Compulsory", UK Government Says

The UK government has stressed that it is “not compulsory” to wear a mask while ill, though it has been “longstanding advice” from health authorities.

It comes after Professor Susan Hopkins, chief medical adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), issued advice on Jan. 2 saying adults should “wear a face covering” if they have to leave the house while feeling unwell.

The UKHSA handed out the advice this week in a bid to counter high levels of flu, COVID-19, and invasive Strep A disease.

Transport Secretary Mark Harper also said it would be “sensible” to do so if travelling.

Transport Secretary Mark Harper arrives for a government COBRA emergency committee meeting at the Cabinet Office in London, on Dec. 14, 2022. (Victoria Jones/PA Media)

Asked for the government’s opinion on the UKHSA’s guidance, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak’s spokesman said on Jan. 3: “Obviously that’s advice they put out. I think that is pretty longstanding advice.

“It remains health advice to the public—it is not mandatory. People need their judgment. Certainly people will continue to use their good sense, having spent a long time dealing ... with these kinds of infectious illnesses.”

Questioned whether it was really “longstanding” advice for people to wear face coverings if they are battling a cold, the spokesman replied: “That’s not what the advice says. What you’ll see is, as has often been the case, if people are ill, they are advised to stay at home.

“Obviously people can choose to wear a mask if they wish to. It is not compulsory. This is advice from UKHSA rather than government ministers telling

people what to do, as we saw during the height of the pandemic before the emergence of vaccines.”

Stats, energy, Russia: Jan4 Notes from underground

Three accounts of the oil industry will make you think the next time you fill the tank

SOCAR Oil Fields #3 Baku, Azerbaijan, 2006, Edward Burtynsky, courtesy of Flowers, London and Metivier Gallery, Toronto; from ‘Oil’ by Edward Burtynsky (Steidl)

- [Notes from underground on twitter \(opens in a new window\)](#)
- [Notes from underground on facebook \(opens in a new window\)](#)
- [Notes from underground on linkedin \(opens in a new window\)](#)
-

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The Oil Road: Journeys from the Caspian Sea to the City of London, by James Marriott and Mika Minio-Paluello, *Verso*, ~~RRP£16.99/\$26.95~~, 376 pages

Fuel on the Fire: Oil and Politics in Occupied Iraq, by Greg Muttitt, *The New Press*, ~~RRP\$28.95/Vintage, RRP£9.99~~, 432 pages

The Big Flatline: Oil and the No-Growth Economy, by Jeff Rubin, *Palgrave Macmillan*, RRP\$27 (October)/£16.99 (November), 272 pages

In his introduction to *Naked Lunch*, William Burroughs explained the title as “a frozen moment when everyone sees what is on the end of every fork”. If you have spent any time looking at [the oil business](#), you will know exactly what he meant.

So much in modern life, from plastic cups to Boeing 787s, is made from or with oil that discovering the facts of how it is extracted, processed and distributed is like peeling back the surface of the everyday world to reveal the hidden structure beneath. [When BP's Macondo well ruptured in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010](#), many people were confronted for the first time by some of those realities – including the awe-inspiring difficulties of working in the deep waters where oil companies venture now that the more accessible areas have been sucked dry, and the catastrophic consequences of failure. The video feed from the sea bed a mile down, showing oil and gas pouring unstoppably from the well into the waters of the gulf, brought home to American consumers the ugly side of a business that they had habitually ignored.

The three books under review, in contrasting styles, achieve a similar effect: shining a light on the industry to expose the consequences of our dependence on oil. At the very least, they will make you think the next time you fill the tank.

The Oil Road is an unusual work: an elegantly written travel book about a pipeline. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline,, known as BTC, carries crude from oilfields in the Caspian Sea to a tanker port in the Mediterranean, providing a secure route for the booming energy exports of [the former Soviet republic of Azerbaijan](#). Filled to capacity, it can carry more than 1 per cent of the world's oil supply, making it a strategically critical piece of infrastructure for the world.

Exploring the political, social and environmental impact of the pipeline as they travel its 1,100-mile length and beyond, James Marriott and Mika Minio-Paluello spin an unexpectedly engaging tale. Both men are members of Platform, a curious hybrid of protest group and arts collective that makes its points through exhibitions and performances, rather than demonstrations and speeches, and

their book is a similarly distinctive blend of travelogue, reportage and history.

Not many books about oil include references to Rainer Maria Rilke and Filippo Marinetti, or cite Robert Fagles' translation of *The Odyssey* in their bibliographies alongside the 2008 annual report of the state oil fund of Azerbaijan. Marriott and Minio-Paluello have points to make about the corrosive effect of oil money, and about the damage done by oil to the environment. Getting BTC built was an important diplomatic objective for the US and Europe, as well as a commercial priority for BP, which owns much of the oil that flows through it. As the authors point out, the interests of people living along the route were never the principal focus.

But the book is more a series of reflections than a polemic or manifesto. Rather than John Pilger or Naomi Klein, the presiding spirit is that of Iain Sinclair, who uses rambling excursions in and around London to uncover hidden aspects of the city's past and present.

Following the route taken by the oil, from the offshore platforms in the Azeri-Chirag-Gunashli oilfield in the Caspian to refineries in Germany, Marriott and Minio-Paluello intersperse the story of their journey with historical anecdotes, often showing how oil has shaped the regions they pass through from Baku to Bavaria. It is an illuminating technique, pointing up how much continuity there is in the nexus of money, power and oil.

Not that the pair are slouches as reporters. They deliver some sharp observations about the suppression of free speech in Azerbaijan and the danger of leaks, and uncover a genuine scoop in pinning down stories that Russia had bombed BTC during the war with Georgia in August 2008. In fact, a different nearby pipeline was attacked, apparently deliberately, but was not hit.

Around the same time that oil was beginning to flow through BTC, in the summer of 2006, the US was enlisting the help of the UN to revive a less successful attempt to add to global oil supplies: the effort to raise Iraq's production after the US-led invasion of 2003. The story of how that proved so difficult is told in Greg Muttitt's *Fuel on the Fire*, a history of Iraq's oil industry from before the war to the arrival "en masse" of western oil companies at the end of the decade.

Muttitt is a former colleague of Marriott and Minio-Paluello at Platform, and has a walk-on part in *The Oil Road*, but his own book is very different, if equally impressive. A painstaking piece of investigative reporting with 48 pages of footnotes, based on documents released under freedom of information legislation and interviews with Iraqis, it gives the best account yet of a hitherto under-reported story.

After nine years, a financial cost of about \$1tn, and more than 100,000 dead (according to the Iraq Body Count project), we still do not have a fully convincing explanation of why the US was so committed to invading Iraq. The absence of any connection between Saddam Hussein and the 9/11 attacks, the likelihood that he had no effective weapons of mass destruction, and the potential for sustained chaos and bloodshed after he was toppled, were all understood by people who knew Iraq well before the invasion, yet the US administration was determined to push ahead nevertheless.

Muttitt suggests an explanation that was always one of the allegations thrown by critics of the US, but has received little serious attention: that it was, at least in part, a war for oil. That is not in the simplistic sense that the US and British governments were trying to grab Iraq's resources for the benefit of ExxonMobil and BP, although those interests were a factor in post-war planning.

Rather, it is that the US saw a need to bring on new sources of oil production to meet growing global demand. Iraq, with the world's fifth-largest oil reserves, was an obvious source of increased supply, but for as long as Saddam remained in power its exports were constrained by sanctions.

From that perspective Saddam needed to be removed, Muttitt argues, but thereafter it did not matter who produced the oil. "What the major powers need is a continuous flow to consumers through purchase, not theft, over many years," he writes. Exxon, BP and other western groups were important only because they had the technology and skills that were most likely to maximise production.

Muttitt does not claim that oil was the single motive for the war, and accepts that the US administration may have made a genuine mistake in over-estimating Iraq's capacity to produce weapons of

mass destruction. But the weight of the evidence that he sets out suggests that the maximisation of Iraq's oil production was an important objective both before and after the war. In that sense, after years of slow progress, the invasion appears to be showing results. In July, for the first time since the 1980s, [Iraq's oil production surpassed that of Iran](#), which has been constrained by international sanctions. The International Energy Agency, which monitors oil markets on behalf of developed countries, forecast last year that Iraq would make the largest contribution to increased oil supplies of any country in the world over the coming decade.

The impact of [political instability in the Middle East](#) on future oil production is one of the issues considered by Jeff Rubin in *The Big Flatline*, a brisk introduction to a world of constrained energy supplies. His previous take on the issue, *Why Your World Is About to Get a Whole Lot Smaller* (2009), put a more positive spin on the retreat of globalisation caused by increased fuel costs. *The Big Flatline* is gloomier, possibly reflecting the fact that Rubin has in the interim resigned from his comfortable job as chief economist at CIBC World Markets, the Canadian bank. It is also less successful than its predecessor, with more irrelevant digressions and fewer original ideas, but it is nonetheless important.

Although the flow of oil will not stop, Rubin argues, the new sources of crude, in deep water and tar sands and shale rocks, will be more expensive than the production we have relied on in the past, and that increased cost will be a significant constraint on economic growth.

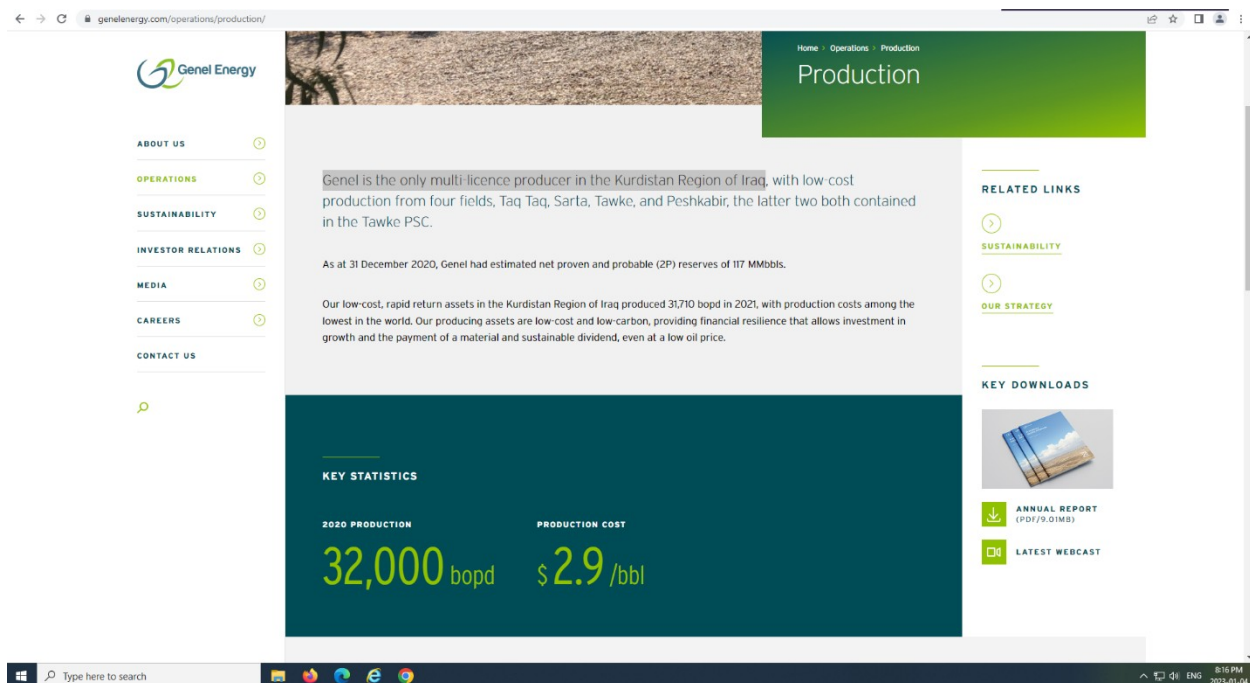
The book does not fully refute the opposing position, that thanks to the [techniques of shale production pioneered in North America](#), we are in fact entering an era of energy abundance, with ample supplies of oil and gas. But the warning that constraints on energy use will set limits to growth is worth taking seriously nevertheless. *The Big Flatline* should be read in conjunction with "Is US Economic Growth Over?", a much talked-about recent paper by Northwestern University economist Robert Gordon. He suggests six reasons to believe it might be, including the need to curb energy consumption to fight the threat of global warming.

The good news about energy scarcity, Rubin argues, could be that "we'll buy fewer things, but we'll also have more time to enjoy our lives". For many people, however, especially in emerging

economies, that may seem like an unattractive prospect. If energy supplies do become tighter, we can expect intensified efforts to grab hold of what is left.

Ed Crooks is the FT's US industry and energy editor

Energy, middle east, stats: region produces oil for under 3 dollars per day in kurdish iraq: "Genel is the only multi-licence producer in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq"



**Energy, stats, middle east, markets: read later:
Kurdistan Oil Pipeline**

https://www.gem.wiki/Kurdistan_Oil_Pipeline#cite_note-krg-8

stats, energy, Russia, history: The Caspian Sea is the world's largest inland body of water, often described as the world's largest lake or a full-fledged sea, and lies above one of the world's largest collections of oil and gas fields. As the

sea is landlocked, transporting oil to Western markets is complicated



During Soviet times, all transportation routes from the Caspian region were through Russia. The collapse of the Soviet Union inspired a search for new routes. Russia first insisted that the new pipeline should pass through its territory, then declined to participate.^{[2][3]}

In the spring of 1992, the Turkish Prime Minister [Süleyman Demirel](#) proposed to Central Asian countries including Azerbaijan that the pipeline run through Turkey. The first document on the construction of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline was signed between Azerbaijan and Turkey on 9 March 1993 in [Ankara](#).^[4] The Turkish route meant a pipeline from Azerbaijan would run through Georgia or [Armenia](#), but the route through Armenia was politically impossible due to the unresolved war between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the [status of Nagorno-Karabakh](#). This left the circuitous Azerbaijan-Georgia-Turkey route, longer and more expensive to build than the other option.^[5]

The project gained momentum following the Ankara Declaration, adopted on 29 October 1998 by [President of Azerbaijan Heydar Aliyev](#), [President of Georgia Eduard Shevardnadze](#), [President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev](#), [President of](#)

[Turkey Süleyman Demirel](#), and [President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov](#). The declaration was witnessed by the [United States Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson](#), who expressed strong support for the pipeline. The intergovernmental agreement in support of the pipeline was signed by Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkey on 18 November 1999, during a meeting of the [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe](#) (OSCE) in [Istanbul](#), Turkey.^[5]

Construction^[edit]

The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan Pipeline Company (BTC Co.) was established in London on 1 August 2002.^[6] The ceremony launching construction of the pipeline was held on 18 September 2002.^[7] Construction began in April 2003 and was completed in 2005. The Azerbaijan section was constructed by [Consolidated Contractors International](#) of Greece, and Georgia's section was constructed by a joint venture of France's [Spie Capag](#) and UK Petrofac International. The Turkish section was constructed by [BOTAS](#) Petroleum Pipeline Corporation. [Bechtel](#) was the main contractor for engineering, procurement and construction.^[6] Detailed design and engineering contractor was ILF Consulting Engineers for the Turkish section of pipeline, which is approximately over 1000km ^[8]

Inauguration^[edit]

On 25 May 2005, the pipeline was inaugurated at the [Sangachal Terminal](#) by President [Ilham Aliyev](#) of the Azerbaijan Republic, President [Mikhail Saakashvili](#) of Georgia and President [Ahmet Sezer](#) of Turkey, joined by President [Nursultan Nazarbayev](#) of Kazakhstan and [United States Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman](#).^[9]^[10] The inauguration of the Georgian section was hosted by President [Mikheil Saakashvili](#) at the pumping station near [Gardabani](#) on 12 October 2005.^[11] The inauguration ceremony at Ceyhan terminal was held on 13 July 2006.^{[11][12]}

Stats, energy, Russia: petroleum pipelines through europe



Energy, stats, middle east: Kirkuk-Baniyas crude oil pipeline transports 300 bpd from the Kirkuk oil field in Iraq to the Syrian port of Baniyas and was constructed in 23 April 1952

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kirkuk%E2%80%93Baniyas_pipeline

stats, energy, middles east: Iraq's largest crude oil export line is The Kirkuk-Ceyhan Oil Pipeline, also known as the Iraq-Turkey Crude Oil Pipeline, is a 600-mile-long (970 km) pipeline that runs from Kirkuk in Iraq to Ceyhan in Turkey.

Sanctions, war, energy: (october.13th, 2021) US sanctions under the Caesar Act against Syria specifically target the energy and construction

sectors to impede the country's ability to rebuild after 10 brutal years of war. The sanctions can target any person regardless of nationality, discouraging Syria's neighbors from helping in the reconstruction.

Stats, war, middle east, energy: jan4 World Food Programme: 60% of syrian close to starving, feb 2021, Syrians have been grappling with a rise in the price of basic items over the past year as the national currency, the Syrian Pound, has plummeted in value.

"The situation has never been worse. After 10 years of conflict, Syrian families have exhausted their savings as they face a spiralling economic crisis," [said](#) Sean O'Brien, [WFP](#) Representative and Country Director in Syria.

Meanwhile, the cost of basic foods to feed a family for a month – such as bread, rice, lentils, oil and sugar – far exceeds average salaries.

"It is alarming that a simple meal is beyond the reach of families across Syria, and this new data shows humanitarian assistance is the difference between putting a meal on the table and going to bed hungry. Lifesaving support has never been so crucial," said Mr. O'Brien.

Erdogan, war: Syria and Turkey's defense ministers recently met for the first time since 2011.

Energy, middle east, war, sanctions: As part of its occupation of Syria, the US and Kurdish allies control most of the country's oil and gas resources.

Energy middle east, war, sanctions: Jordan opened its border with Syria in September, October 13, 2021, antiwar

Stats, war: low intensity warfare: "involves the state's use of military forces applied selectively and with restraint to enforce compliance with its policies or objectives."

Low-intensity conflict is defined by the [US Army](#) as:

... a political-military confrontation between contending [states](#) or groups below [conventional war](#) and above the routine, peaceful competition among states. It frequently involves protracted struggles of competing principles and ideologies. Low-intensity conflict ranges from [subversion](#) to the use of the [armed forces](#). It is waged by a combination of means, employing political, economic, informational, and military instruments. Low-intensity conflicts are often localized, generally in the [Third World](#), but contain regional and global security implications.^[3]

History, war: the story of Vichy France, the government that ruled from June 1940 till August 1944. Despite heavy pressure, the French government at Vichy never joined the Axis powers and even remained formally at war with Germany

The terms of the armistice presented certain advantages, such as keeping the [French Navy](#) and [French colonial empire](#) under French control and avoiding full occupation of the country by Germany, which maintained a degree of French independence and neutrality

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vichy_France

On November 8, 1942, in the thick of World War II, thousands of American soldiers landed on the Atlantic coast of Morocco, while others amassed in Algeria, only to take immediate gunfire from the French. Needless to say, it marked the end of U.S. diplomatic relations with the Vichy government installed in France during WWII.

Most nations recognized the Vichy government as legitimate; the U.S. sent [William Leahy as an ambassador](#),

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/vichy-government-france-world-war-ii-willingly-collaborated-nazis-180967160/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collaboration_with_the_Axis_powers

China, war, history: Karen insurgent groups, led primarily by the Karen National Union (KNU), have waged war against the Burmese government since early 1949. They have a population of 5 million people, and account for 7% of the Burmese (Myanmar population). The original aim of the KNU was to create an independent Karen homeland called Kawthoolei.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karen_people

Yangon, the largest city in Berma suffers from deeply inadequate infrastructure, especially compared to other major cities in Southeast Asia, such as Jakarta, Bangkok or Hanoi

history: The British captured Yangon and all of Lower Burma in the Second Anglo-Burmese War of 1852, and subsequently transformed Yangon into the commercial and political hub of British Burma

stats, war: HUMINT: Human intelligence (abbreviated HUMINT and pronounced as hyoo-mint) is intelligence gathered by means of interpersonal contact. A typical HUMINT activity consists of interrogations and

conversations with persons having access to information.

Human intelligence (abbreviated **HUMINT** and pronounced as *hyoo-mint*) is [intelligence gathered](#) by means of interpersonal contact, as opposed to the [more technical intelligence gathering disciplines](#) such as [signals intelligence](#) (SIGINT), [imagery intelligence](#) (IMINT) and [measurement and signature intelligence](#) (MASINT).^[1]

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_intelligence_\(intelligence_gathering\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_intelligence_(intelligence_gathering))

censorship, journal: themarkup, a website that I had saved in my favourites, completely lies to their readers by saying tech firms don't listen to their users audio, something easily proven false with a simple google search.

Dear Julia: Is my cellphone listening to me? I often get ads related to things that I talked about but didn't look up online, and it makes me think that my phone is sending data about my conversations to advertisers.

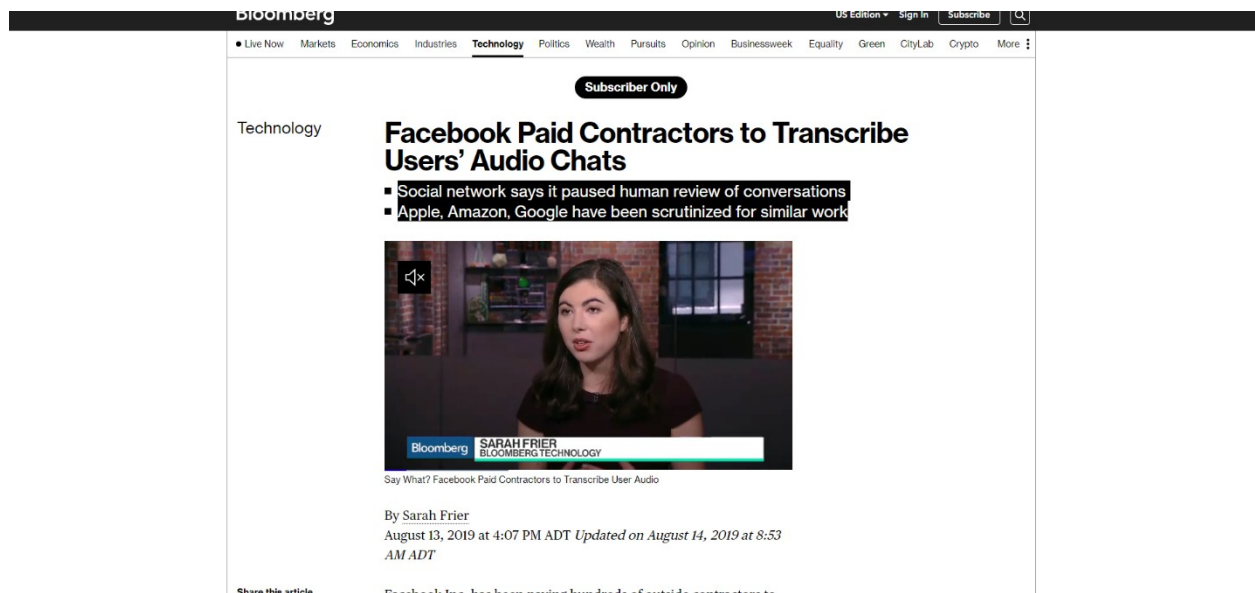
Dear Reader: I get this question all the time because it's such a common experience. And yet there is no compelling evidence that marketers are using your audio to tailor their advertisements.

There have been many experiments over the years testing this hypothesis, and all of them have come up dry. The most comprehensive test—[a study by Northeastern University researchers published in 2018](#)—analyzed 17,260 Android apps and found that “no apps appeared to exfiltrate audio in our tests.”

themarkupdotorg/newsletter/hello-world/ask-julia-is-my-phone-listening-to-me

As you can see, tech firms actually do listen to their users audio, even going so far as to hire independent contractors

to do the job for them, and without anybody knowing, something that was reported by Bloomberg in 2019..

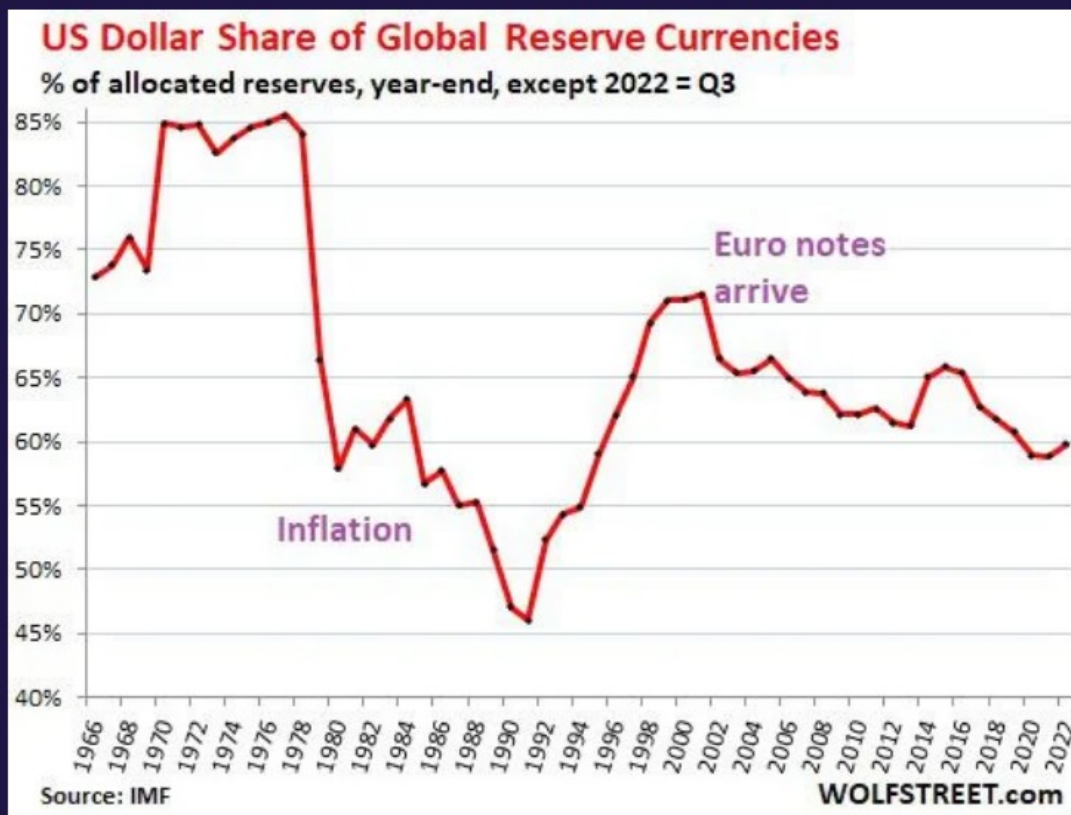


Facebook confirmed that it had been transcribing users' audio and said it will no longer do so, following scrutiny into other companies. "Much like Apple and Google, we paused human review of audio more than a week ago," the company said Tuesday. The company said the users who were affected [chose the option](#) in Facebook's Messenger app to have their voice chats transcribed. The contractors were checking whether Facebook's artificial intelligence correctly interpreted the messages, which were anonymized.

**webcachedotgoogleusercontentdotcom/search?
q=cache:kMH6qm-
WsGcJ:[https://
www.bloomberg.com/](https://www.bloomberg.com/)**

[news/articles/2019-08-13/
facebook-paid-hundreds-
of-contractors-to-
transcribe-users-
audio&cd=4&hl=en&ct=cl
nk&gl=ca](#)

stats, markets, war, sanctions, china: **The dollar had a share of 85% of global exchange reserves in the early 1970s. But over the next 15 years, the share plunged by nearly half, driven by an explosion of inflation that scared the wits out of holders of USD-denominated assets**



Media, stats: millionaire socialite executive who killed autistic son in \$2300 per night hotel ends up dead after being denied bail

The socialite from Belgium allegedly admitted to using a syringe to plunge a lethal cocktail of painkillers, tranquilizers and sleeping pills mixed with alcohol and orange juice down the boy's throat inside their \$2,300-a-night suite at the luxury Peninsula Hotel in Manhattan in February 2010...

prosecutors argued that as her autistic son was dying, she used her laptop to pull \$125,000 from his trust fund, New York Daily News reported.

Jordan was sentenced to 18 years in prison on the manslaughter charge, but a Manhattan federal judge in 2020 granted bail amid her ongoing appeals for a new trial.

Her appeals focused on 15 minutes during which the courtroom was briefly closed to the public during her trial.

Citing unnamed officials, WNBC reported that Jordan was found dead in a bathtub, with a note nearby, just five minutes after midnight Friday morning inside a Brooklyn residence she was renting. Not immediately ruled a suicide, a medical examiner will determine the official cause of death.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/nyc-millionaire-pharma-executive-convicted-130107224.html>

**censorship: (Re: (rebel media breaks it down better)
Reeducation camps: agreeing with the Official
Opposition and criticizing major government
figures can result in having professional license
revoked according to Jordan Peterson, Jan. 3rd**

Jordan Peterson, an Ontario licensed clinical psychologist and staunch free-speech advocate, is having his speech compelled by his governing body, the [College of Psychologists of Ontario](#) (CPO).

He is being compelled to take a course to correct his thought crimes, which allegedly involved re-tweeting Conservative Party of Canada Leader Pierre Poilievre and being skeptical of the Justin Trudeau Liberals.

rebelnewsdotcom/
the_thought_police_come_for_jordan_peterson



Unretweeted despite this falsehood

Thread

248.8K

37

402

5,062



Dr Jordan B Peterson  @jordanbpeterson · Jan 3

...

We are now in a situation in Canada under [@JustinTrudeau](#) where practicing professionals can have their livelihoods and public reputations threatened in a very serious manner for agreeing with the Official Opposition and criticizing major government figures.

351.9K

256

1,975

9,671



Dr Jordan B Peterson  @jordanbpeterson · Jan 3

...

If I comply the terms of my re-education and my punishment will be announced publicly. I have already had the second most serious category of punishment levied against me and have been deemed at high risk to "re-offend."

294.8K

112

584

6,164



Dr Jordan B Peterson  @jordanbpeterson · Jan 3

...

Canadians: your physicians, lawyers, psychologists and other professionals are now so intimidated by their commissar overlords that they fear to tell you the truth. This means that your care and legal counsel has been rendered dangerously unreliable.

393.8K

198

2,591

11.9K



Dr Jordan B Peterson  @jordanbpeterson · Jan 3

...

Ask Queen's U law@professor [@PardyBruce](#) if he concurs on the legal front.

401.7K

37

402

5,370



Dr Jordan B Peterson  @jordanbpeterson · Jan 3

...

To reiterate: I face public disgrace, mandatory political re-education, disciplinary hearing and potential loss of my clinical licensing for agreeing with [@PierrePoilievre](#) and criticizing our standing PM [@JustinTrudeau](#)

858.9K

706

2,552

11.4K



Dr Jordan B Peterson  @jordanbpeterson · Jan 3

...

I am willing (if [@CPOntario](#) concurs, which they won't) to make absolutely every word of all this fully public so that everyone can decide for themselves what is actually happening

Sanctions, Russia, energy, war: jan4 'Electric Shocked' - 88% Of New Cars Sold In Norway Are EVs

<https://www.statista.com/chartoftheday/>

energy, sanctions, censorship: this is an embarrassment to not just this province, but this entire country: "2 stalled LNG projects in Nova Scotia may be on the brink of revival"

cbcdotca/news/canada/nova-scotia/2-lng-proposals-could-move-forward-bear-head-goldboro-1.6447671

stats, media: jan4 England Sees 39% Rise In Children Needing Help For Serious Mental Health Problems

Figures show more than a million children need treatment for serious mental health problems, including eating disorders, in the time since lockdowns were imposed in England.

NHS data analysed by the PA news agency show a 39 percent rise in a year in referrals for NHS mental health treatment for under-18s, to 1,169,515 in 2021 to 2022.

This compares with the previous year of 2020 to 2021, when the figure was 839,570. In 2019 to 2020 there were 850,741 referrals.

From 2020 to early 2022 the [UK government imposed](#) multiple COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions.

The England-wide data include children who are suicidal, self-harming, suffering serious depression or anxiety, and those with eating disorders.

Hospital admissions for eating disorders were also found to be increasing among under-18s.

There were 7,719 admissions in 2021/22, up from 6,079 the previous year, and 4,232 in 2019/20, an 82 percent rise across two years.

‘Heightened Sense of Anxiety and Loss of Control’

Elaine Lockhart, chairwoman of the child and adolescent psychiatry faculty at the Royal College of Psychiatrists, said the rise in referrals for children and

young people reflects a “whole range” of illnesses including psychosis, suicidal thoughts, and severe anxiety disorder.

Lockhart said children and young people’s mental health had been getting worse before the pandemic.

“When the lockdowns and pandemic struck, that really had such a negative effect on a lot of children,” she added.

“Those who had been doing well became vulnerable and those were vulnerable became unwell,” she said.

“And part of that was about children themselves feeling very untethered from the day-to-day life that supports them, but also seeing their own parents struggle, and then that collective heightened sense of anxiety and loss of control we all had really affected children,” said Lockhart.

The data show that anorexia is the most common eating disorder leading to hospital admission among all ages, with 10,808 admissions in 2021/22.

Bulimia is the next most common, with 5,563, while other eating disorders accounted for 12,893 admissions.

Exacerbated

Gary Sidley, a retired clinical psychologist and HART member, has warned of the increase in emotional distress of the British people throughout the pandemic via COVID-19 restrictions.

HART was set up by medical and health professionals to share concerns about policy and guidance recommendations relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The people who are prone to eating disorders, it is a common theme that they have this kind of inflated desire to try and get control over their life and their environment because they kind of sense that everything is out of control,” Sidley told *The Epoch Times*.

“And therefore what happens is that they focus on their one narrow aspect, eating, and try and control that. That’s often a key thing underpinning eating disorders,” he said.

“The restrictions generally including lockdowns and the unpredictability of them and the nonsensical nature of them, would have exacerbated that kind of concern about being out of control,” he added.

In 2021 and in September 2022, HART wrote that mounting evidence of harms to children over the past two years suggests that the government response “placed too much weight on the need to protect vulnerable adults at the expense of the less immediately obvious (but more long-term) damage to the well-being and futures of our children and young people.”

“With children confined to their homes and isolated from community life, statutory and third-party services pared back or online, and many strategies used to ameliorate mental health difficulties banned or restricted (eg sport, family connection, school engagement, socialising), many children and young people were left to cope with deteriorating mental health without adequate support,” the group wrote.

“Again, the most disadvantaged children suffered the most,” HART added.

‘The Trends Have Been Going Up’

Agnes Ayton, study lead and chair of the Eating Disorders Faculty at the Royal College of Psychiatrists said that a number of factors can affect a child’s chance of developing an eating disorder.

This can include genetics, social media, anxiety, and weight-loss advertising.

“The numbers, the trends, are going up. There definitely has been an impact of the pandemic but the trends have been going up since way before then,” she said.

“There is no indication that the figures will go down without a strategy that includes prevention, improved treatment, better access to effective inpatient treatment, and better research facilities,” she added.

A Department of Health and Social Care spokesman said: “Improving eating disorders services is a key priority and we’re investing £53 million per year in children and young people’s community eating disorder services to increase capacity in 70 community teams across the country.

“We are already investing £2.3 billion a year into mental health services, meaning an additional 345,000 children and young people will be able to access support by 2024—and we’re aiming to grow the mental health workforce by 27,000 more staff by this time too.”

War, Germany, Russia: jan4 Poland Furious After Germany Rejects Government's €1.3 Trillion WWII Reparations Claim

“To dismiss that with just one sentence means that all assurances about excellent German-Polish relations are false,” said Mularczyk.

War, Russia: jan4 Russian Military Faces Rare Outrage At Home After Devastating Barracks Attack

The weekend strike on a Russian conscript barracks in Makiivka in Donetsk region which left possibly hundreds killed has sparked rare backlash and fury inside Russia, with even hardcore nationalists demanding answers and accountability of the military and government.

Russia had initially given an official death toll from the attack, which was allegedly conducted with US-supplied HIMARS rocket launchers, of 63 soldiers killed while Ukraine claims that it was actually up to 400. Later on Tuesday, the [defense ministry](#) **upgraded the death toll to 89.**

Some Russian military bloggers [agree](#) that it was likely more in the hundreds range, and have **condemned military commanders for garrisoning troops in what's being widely described as an unprotected building easily exposed to strikes**, which also may have had an ammunition depot positioned dangerously next to it.

*"And no, not Ukrainian," Sukonkin wrote on Telegram. "The Armed Forces of Ukraine are acting as they should — they are trying to kill our soldiers. **But their real killer is the scoundrel who positioned the fighters in such a way that it was easy for the enemy to shoot them.**"*

While Putin long ago warned that the Ukraine special operation, which only at the end of last year he called a "war" for the first time, would be a long haul mission, many hawks in Russia believe the military is holding back too much, and that a larger-scale operation should be ordered.

With the Russian invasion stalemated, and huge losses such as suffered at Makiivka in the New Year attack, are we about to witness a full formal declaration of war by Putin?

Stats, war, energy, sanctions: CBC, 1200 comments for halifax warm weather article: "Saturday will break the record for the latest date into winter without having at least two centimetres of snow on the ground at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport"

"While the rest of the country is getting walloped by snow and ice, Nova Scotia is an outlier."

cbcdotca/news/canada/nova-scotia/halifax-is-about-to-set-record-for-lack-of-snow-1.6700292

war, Germany, stats, sanctions: **just noticed that there's no bases in france....hmm...**

USA's Military Empire: A Visual Database

The United States of America, unlike any other nation, maintains a massive network of foreign military installations around the world.

How was this created and how is it continued? Some of these physical installations are on land occupied as spoils of war. Most are maintained through collaborations with governments, many of them brutal and oppressive governments benefiting from the bases' presence. In many cases, human beings were displaced to make room for these military installations, often depriving people of farmland, adding huge amounts of pollution to local water systems and the air, and existing as an unwelcome presence.

To explore this database, click on map markers or use the dashboard to make selections:



Censorship, stats, media: 1 in 6 women are raped at one point in their lives in the united states (seriously..)

<https://www.rainn.org/statistics/victims-sexual-violence>

markets, war, inflation, government: Wipeout! Global Bonds And Stocks Suffer \$18 Trillion Wipeout In 2022 (MSCI All Country World Index Down >20% In 2022)

tech, markets, government: Amazon loses half of its value, plunging 51%, the worst drop off since the tech bubble burst in 2000

tumbled 51% in 2022, marking the biggest decline since 2000, when it plunged 80%

censorship, vaccine, health: AB 2098 California law now in effect - doctors - misinformation or disinformation related to COVID-19

“Assembly Bill 2098 provides that the dissemination of misinformation or disinformation related to COVID-19 by physicians and surgeons to a patient under their direct care constitutes unprofessional conduct,” Newsom said in a statement.

Newsom specified that AB 2098 only applies to “discussions directly related to COVID-19 treatment within a direct physician-patient relationship.”

“The spread of misinformation and disinformation about COVID-19 vaccines has weakened public confidence and placed lives at serious risk. Major news outlets have reported that some of the most dangerous propagators of inaccurate information regarding the COVID-19 vaccines are licensed health care professionals.”

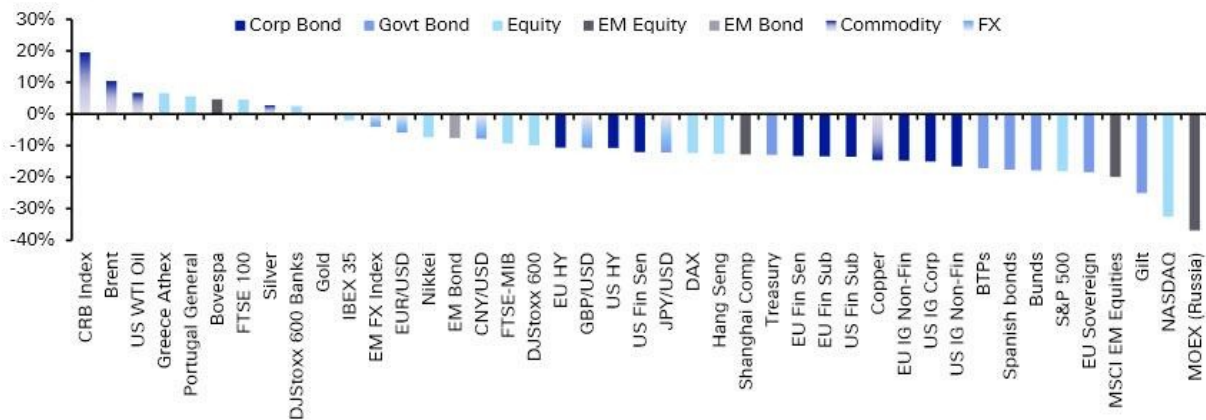
Vaccine, media: Athletes who Died/Collapsed Suddenly in last 12 months

investmentwatchblogdotcom/athletes-who-died-collapsed-suddenly-in-last-12-months/

markets, government, inflation: jan3

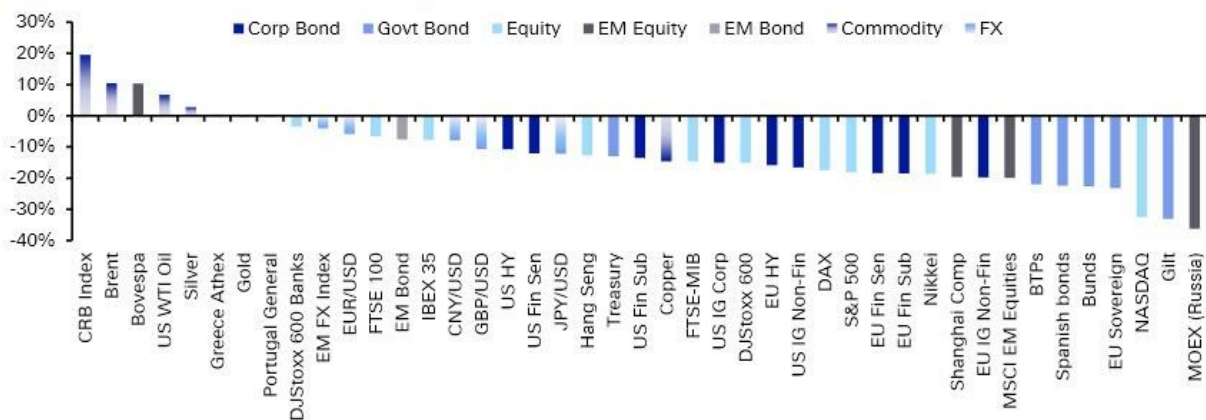
2022 market in review: S&P 500 saw its worst annual performance since 2008, global bonds fall into a bear market for the 1st time in 70 years (worst year for 10yr Treasuries on a total return basis since 1788); inflation key driver in market turmoil and central bank tightening; Bitcoin down -64.3%, Ethereum down -67.5%; Brent crude surpasses \$100/bbl for the first time since 2014

Figure 5: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in 2022 (in Local Currency)



Source : Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg Finance LP

Figure 6: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in 2022 (in USD)



Source : Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg Finance LP

The biggest driver of this was much stronger-than-expected inflation, which hit multi-decade highs and led central banks to embark on their most aggressive tightening cycle in a generation. In the meantime, investors also had to grapple with geopolitical turmoil, since Russia's invasion of Ukraine led to massive spikes in energy and food prices that particularly hit emerging market economies. That meant commodities were among the few assets that ended the year in positive territory. **But elsewhere, the picture was far less rosy, and just 9 of the 38 non-currency assets in DB's sample made gains over 2022 as a whole, whilst in USD terms it was just 6 out of 38.**

The start of the year contained much of the themes that continued over the rest of 2022, with January seeing central banks pivot in a hawkish direction in response to continued and persistent inflation. For instance, investors initially expected the Fed to hike by just 74bps over 2022 as a whole, which was roughly in line with the FOMC dot plot from December 2021 that pointed to three 25bp hikes. But by the end of January, futures were pricing 123bps of hikes by year-end, with an initial rate hike widely expected for March.

That trend continued into early February, with growing speculation that the Fed might start the hiking cycle with a larger-than-usual 50bp hike. But by mid-February there were growing warnings that Russia was about to invade Ukraine, which then occurred on February 24. That led commodity prices to surge, with **Brent crude surpassing \$100/bbl for the first time since 2014, before peaking at an intraday high for the year at \$139/bbl on March 7.** Other commodities also spiked, including European natural gas, and various agricultural goods such as wheat.

This rise in commodity prices created a fresh dilemma for central banks. On the one hand, they were unable to directly deal with the supply shock, but its consequences were being seen through higher inflation, creating the risk that inflation would become increasingly entrenched over time. With inflation concerns dominating the growth worries, the Fed began its hiking cycle in March with a 25bps move. **However, on March 29 the US 2s10s yield curve inverted for the first time of this cycle, which was a concerning sign given that it had inverted prior to all of the last 10 US recessions.**

By the end of Q1, markets had put in a pretty poor performance, but in Q2 it was even worse. Once again, the catalyst for this was stubbornly persistent inflation, and there was a massive slump in mid-June after the US CPI release for May came out. That showed inflation surprising to the upside yet again, which in turn prompted the Fed to ratchet up the pace of rate hikes to 75bps for the first time since the 1990s as they sought to get inflation back to target. **The prospect of 75bp hikes triggered sizeable losses, with the S&P 500 falling by more than -10% in the space of a week, which was the first time that had happened since the pandemic turmoil of March 2020.** At the same time, yields on 10yr Treasuries rose to 3.50%, their highest intraday level in over a decade.

Following the awful H1 performance, there were growing hopes by the summer that the Fed might soon begin pivoting in a dovish direction. Falling energy prices helped to boost that narrative, and the US CPI report for July showed the first monthly decline in prices since May 2020. **But any hopes of that were firmly stamped out by a hawkish speech from Fed Chair Powell at Jackson Hole, where he said that getting back to price stability would “likely require maintaining a restrictive policy stance for some time.”** The ECB also hiked rates for the first time in over a decade, opening with a 50bps move in July and following up with a 75bps move in September.

Another feature of Q3 was growing fears about a potential recession, particularly after the Nord Stream gas pipeline from Russia was suspended. At their peak, **European natural gas futures rose above €300 per megawatt-hour, which led European governments to step in to protect consumers and businesses from the impact of higher energy prices.** Later in the quarter, there was then a fresh bout of turmoil centred on the UK, after the government unveiled the biggest package of tax cuts in half a century. Sterling hit an all-time intraday low against the dollar and there was a large spike in gilt yields that prompted a Bank of England intervention. The turmoil did subside after the government U-turned on the bulk of the announcements, with Liz Truss succeeded as PM by Rishi Sunak. But even with the stabilization in Q4, gilts were still down -25.0% over 2022 as a whole.

This backdrop meant that Q4 started on a rough note, with the S&P 500 hitting its closing low for the year shortly afterwards on October 12. **However, markets were more resilient after that as both the October and November CPI readings from the US surprised on the downside, leading to growing hopes that we might have finally seen “peak inflation”.** That was echoed in the Euro Area too, where inflation fell from a peak of +10.6% in October to +10.1% in November. With inflation falling back, both the Fed and the ECB stepped down to 50bp hikes in December, but they remained hawkish in both cases, signalling further rate hikes ahead in 2023. The Bank of Japan also joined in the action right at the end of the year, announcing in a surprise move on December 20 that they were adjusting their yield curve control policy, with the 10yr yield now able to rise to 0.5%, having been limited to 0.25% before. **However, even with the hawkish moves in December, Q4 still marked the only quarter of the year where markets had a broadly positive performance, with each of the S&P 500, the STOXX 600 and US Treasuries seeing a positive quarterly performance for the first time this year.**

Which assets saw the biggest gains of 2022?

- **Commodities:** In a rough year more broadly, commodities were one of the few asset classes to post consistent gains in 2022. A big factor in that was Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which led to a major spike in energy and food prices in Q1, which then unwound somewhat as the year went on. Nevertheless, Brent Crude (+10.5%) and WTI (+6.7%) still posted gains for the year, as did corn (+14.4%) and wheat (+2.8%) prices. For metals there was a more mixed performance

however. Some such as platinum (+10.9%) performed very strongly, but gold (-0.3%) saw little movement and copper (-14.6%) posted its first annual decline since 2018.

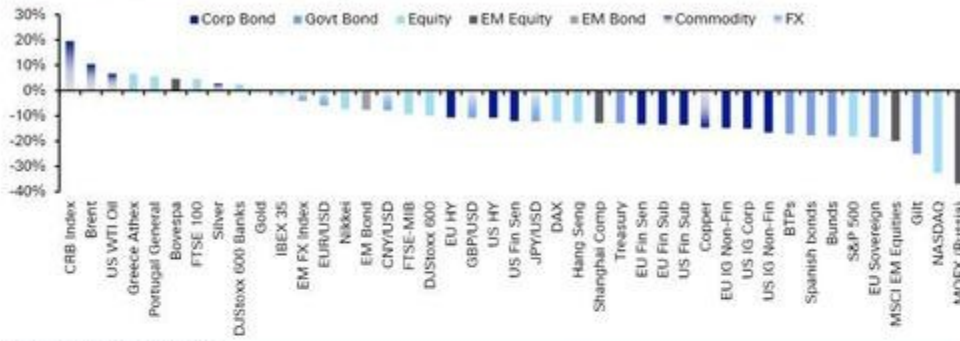
- **US Dollar:** With the Fed hiking rates and moving faster than other central banks, the US Dollar was a major outperformer in 2022. The dollar index (+8.2%) posted its biggest annual advance since 2015, and the dollar itself strengthened against every other G10 currency over the year.

Which assets saw the biggest losses of 2022?

- **Equities:** An aggressive campaign of rate hikes and growing fears of a recession meant it was a rough year for equities. The S&P 500 (-18.1%) saw its biggest annual decline in total return terms since 2008, despite a +7.5% gain in Q4. Over in Europe, the STOXX 600 fell -9.9% over the year, and there was little respite in emerging markets either, with the MSCI EM index down -19.9%.
- **Sovereign Bonds:** After a multi-decade bull run, 2022 was an incredibly bad year for sovereign bonds. For instance, Bloomberg's index of US Treasuries (-12.5%) posted its worst annual performance since data begins in 1973, and the iBoxx series was also down -12.9%. Longer-term data showed that **it was the worst year for 10yr Treasuries on a total return basis since 1788**. Euro sovereign bonds saw even larger declines, with a -18.4% decline thanks to losses in every single quarter, whilst gilts fell -25.0% amidst the turmoil in the UK.
- **Credit:** It was a very bad year for credit, with losses across all of the USD, EUR and GBP indices we follow. GBP credit saw some of the biggest declines, with GBP IG non-fin down -20.4%. However, high-yield credit was a relative outperformer across different regions, with EUR HY only down -10.6%, and US HY only down -10.7%.
- **Cryptocurrencies:** The risk-off moves more broadly proved bad news for cryptocurrencies, with Bitcoin down -64.3% to close the year at \$16,540, having started the year at \$46,334. This pattern was echoed among other cryptocurrencies, with Ethereum down -67.5%, Litecoin down -52.0%, and XRP down -58.7%.

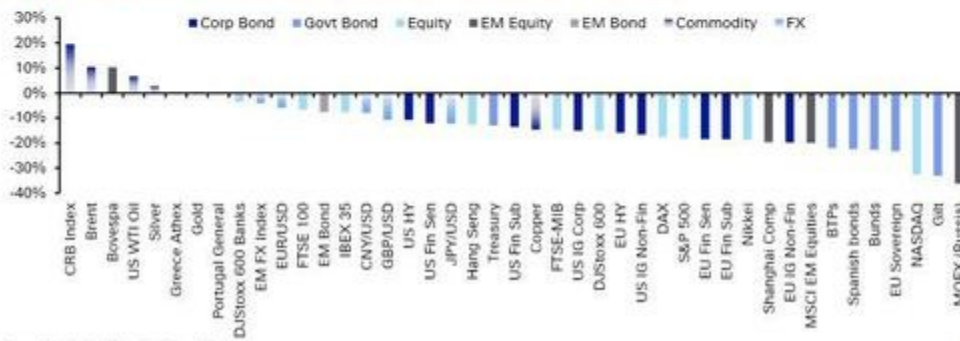
Best and worst performing assets in December (local currency and USD)

Figure 5: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in 2022 (in Local Currency)



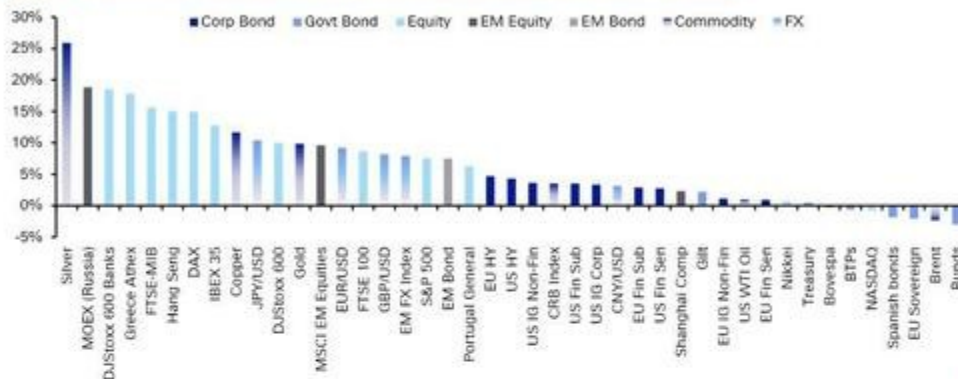
Source: Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg Finance LP

Figure 6: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in 2022 (in USD)



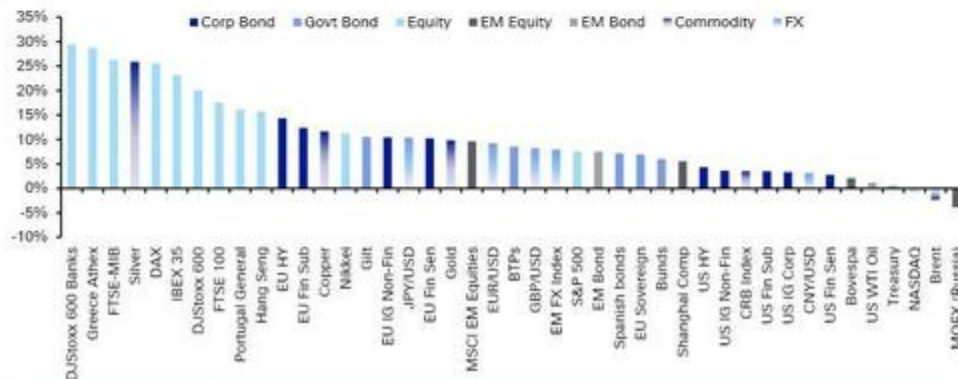
Source: Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg Finance LP

Figure 3: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in Q4 (in Local Currency)



Source: Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg Finance LP

Figure 4: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in Q4 (in USD)



Source: Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg Finance LP

Best and worst performing assets in 2022 (local currency and USD)

Figure 1: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in December (in Local Currency)

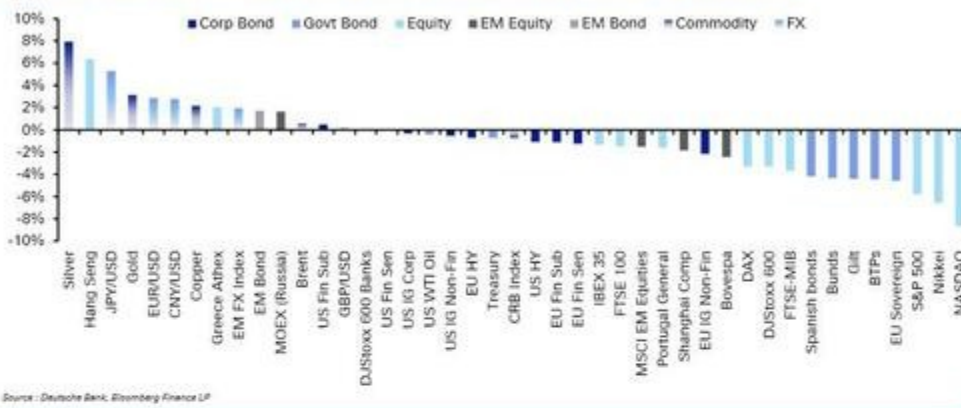
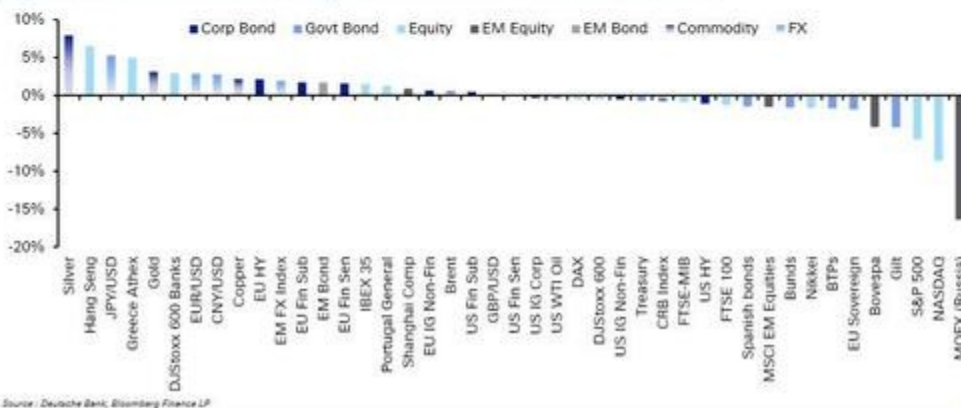


Figure 2: Total Return Performance of Major Global Financial Assets in December (in USD)



Germany, Russia, sanctions, war, energy: jan3 Germany Stops Importing Oil From Russia Via Pipeline

Last month, Germany and Poland [reached an agreement](#) that would see Poland supply enough crude to the Schwedt refinery to run at a capacity of 70% from January, meaning it will no longer need Russian crude.

Europe will find it difficult to replace Russian crude oil and product supply once the full effect of the EU embargoes on Russian petroleum products is felt, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak [said](#) last week.

Markets, inflation, government: read later: Money-Supply Growth Turns Negative For First Time In 33 Years

During the thirteen months between April 2020 and April 2021, money supply growth in the United States often climbed above 35 percent year over year, well above even the "high" levels experienced from 2009 to 2013.

<https://mises.org/wire/money-supply-growth-turns-negative-first-time-33-years>

censorship, media, government, stats: The GayBCs: a real-life childrens book

investmentwatchblogdotcom/theyre-not-coming-for-your-kids-thats-a-conspiracy-theory/

vaccine, government, censorship: Kamala Harris is demanding a negative COVID test if newly-elected senators want a photo taken with her

dailymaildotcodotuk/news/article-11592451/Kamala-Harris-demanding-negative-COVID-test-new-senators-want-photos-ceremony.html

planet, government, energy: nciue climate change article

Discredited 'Population Bomb' Author Predicts "End Of The Civilization We're Used To" On 60 Minutes

BY TYLER DURDEN

TUESDAY, JAN 03, 2023 - 12:05 PM

[*Authored by Paul Joseph Watson via Summit News.*](#)

Author Paul Ehrlich, whose 1968 book 'The Population Bomb' predicted environmental catastrophes that never happened, appeared on 60 Minutes to warn of "the end of the kind of civilization we'

Ehrlich's conversation with CBS host Scott Pelley centered around the narrative that human population growth will be too much for the Earth to sustain, despite the fact that it is set to peak at 9 billion people before rapidly declining.

“Too many people, too much consumption and growth mania” is killing the planet and devastating wildlife according to Ehrlich.

“Humanity is not sustainable. To maintain our lifestyle (yours and mine, basically) for the entire planet, you’d need five more Earths. Not clear where they’re gonna come from,” he claimed.

Despite charges of alarmism, the author defiantly asserted, “I was alarmed. I am still alarmed. All of my colleagues are alarmed” (seemingly unaware that the definition of alarmism is to grossly exaggerate something that isn’t true).

“I know there’s no political will to do any of the things that I’m concerned with, which is exactly why I and the vast majority of my colleagues think we’ve had it; that the next few decades will be the end of the kind of civilization we’re used to,” Ehrlich absurdly claimed.

“The five mass extinctions of the ancient past were caused by natural calamities—volcanoes, and an asteroid. Today, if the science is right, humanity may have to survive a sixth mass extinction in a world of its own making,” he added.

Environmental author Michael Shellenberger responded to the segment by documenting how Ehrlich’s claims were “totally & utterly false” and accusing CBS of pushing “apocalyptic pseudoscience.”

Elon Musk, who has warned about the dangers of population decline, agreed, tweeting, “Absolutely.”

Ehrlich is still treated as a credible voice by the legacy media despite his previous predictions proving to be completely laughable.

In his 1968 book *The Population Bomb*, Ehrlich ludicrously claimed “hundreds of millions of people are going to starve to death” by the 1980’s because of overpopulation.

It never happened.

Similarly, in 2004, climate change “experts” [claimed](#) that by 2020, “major European cities will be sunk beneath rising seas as Britain is plunged into a ‘Siberian’ climate by 2020”.

It never happened.

In 2013, Al Gore claimed that the Arctic would have “ice free” summers by 2013.

It never happened, in fact measurements taken by the EU’s Earth observation programme last year [showed](#) that Arctic sea ice was just 3 per cent below its 30 year average.

None of it ever happens, but that doesn’t stop people like Ehrlich continually spewing doomsday rhetoric in order to advance the narrative that living standards must be drastically reduced in the name of saving the planet.

They should have all been dismissed as wild cranks years ago, but the legacy media is still treating them like they have a shred of credibility left when they clearly don't.

Sanctions, war, markets, Russia:

jan3 "The risk of extreme market tightness that people were worried about before the winter started seems low now.", BloombergNEF's Abhishek Rohatgi wrote

Stats, war: f-35 to cost 75 million per plane

thedefensepost.com/2023/01/02/us-f35-lockheed-martin/

middle east, war: intel officer killed in prison, name not released, say he committed serious offenses

timesofisrael.com/in-rare-move-idf-to-list-former-intel-officer-who-died-in-jail-as-fallen-soldier/

Russia, war: Ukrainian Attack Cut Power in Russian Region for a Time, not independently verified by reuters

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2023-01-02/ukrainian-attack-cut-power-in-russian-region-for-a-time-governor>

china, war: Japan's government embraces counter-strike strategy for first time since 1945

The guidelines, fervently backed by the U.S. government and [the DC think tanks](#) representing the military industrial complex, are the last nails in the coffin of [Japan's Peace](#)

[Constitution](#), which only allows Japan to take military action in self-defense. That document was imposed by U.S. Occupation forces after the war and has been in the cross-hairs of both the Pentagon and Kishida's ruling Liberal Democratic Party since the 1970s.

First, it declares that China is now Japan's number one threat and poses "the greatest strategic challenges ever seen" in Tokyo. North Korea, which has traditionally been mentioned first as a hostile state, now represents a "severe and imminent threat."

"With the security environment surrounding Japan becoming unstable amid threats from China, North Korea and Russia, Tokyo, which has rejected warfare for the past 77 years, will be able to directly attack another country's territory in case of an emergency," *Kyodo News* [explained](#).

timshorrockdotcom/2022/12/23/japan-crosses-the-rubicon/

stats: found the perfect website for military, blog run by some guy who just lays it all out

timshorrockdotcom/2016/12/08/oligarchy-of-spies-the-five-companies-that-dominate-the-u-s-intelligence-industry/

stats, war, history, censorship, vaccine: "spy agencies began outsourcing their core analytic and operational work in the late 1990s."

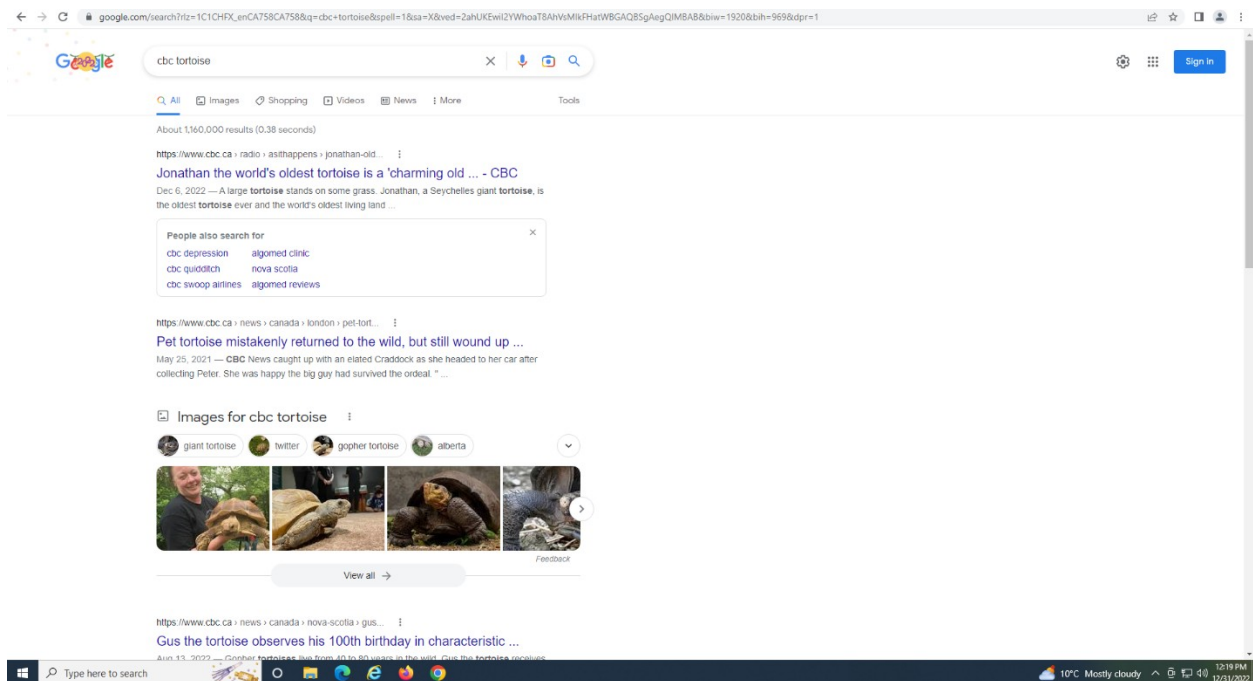
shorrock

bulk of the contracted work goes to a handful of companies: Leidos, Booz Allen Hamilton, General Dynamics/CSRA, SAIC, and CACI International. This concentration of "pure plays"—a Wall Street term for companies that makes one product for a single market

—marks a fundamental shift in an industry that was once a highly diverse mix of large military contractors, small and medium technology companies, and tiny “Beltway Bandits” surrounding Washington, D.C.

stats, censorship: “The past was erased, the erasure was forgotten, the lie became the truth.” - George Orwell, 1984

“Great is truth, but still greater, from a practical point of view, is silence about truth.” — Aldous Huxley, Brave New World



The humorous phrase uttered by George Costanza on a sitcom twenty-seven years ago captures a significant kernel of truth about the mindset of the vast majority of non-critical thinking drones roaming the aisles of Wal-Marts and waiting in the drive-thru at McDonalds across our dystopian states of America. The lies run so deep you need hip-boots to wade through them on a daily basis. The reason our leaders lie is because we let them lie. The majority prefer comforting lies to unpleasant truths, because accepting unpleasant truths would require them to act and they prefer being distracted by trivialities like sports, reality TV, social media likes and otherwise being addicted to their technological gadgets.

Jim Quinn: It's Not A Lie If You Believe It

BY TYLER DURDEN

FRIDAY, DEC 30, 2022 - 05:25 PM

[Authored by Jim Quinn via The Burning Platform blog.](#)

"The past was erased, the erasure was forgotten, the lie became the truth." – **George Orwell, 1984**

"Great is truth, but still greater, from a practical point of view, is silence about truth." — **Aldous Huxley, Brave New World**

I wish I could go through a day without having to reference Orwell and Huxley when observing how the ruling class is able to manipulate, subjugate, and propagandize the willfully ignorant masses through lies, deceptions, disinformation, and fear. But here we are, living through a dystopian nightmare blending the worst aspects of Orwell's 1984 and Huxley's Brave New World.

It's as if O'Brien and Mustapha Mond are running the show, using behavioral conditioning, restricting freedom of speech, adhering to a strict caste system, surveilling everything we say or do, using our fears to control us, utilizing propaganda to produce false narratives, and ultimately threatening to stomp a boot on our faces forever if we do not obey and conform. Virtually everything we are told by politicians, government bureaucrats, military brass, "esteemed"

journalists, medical “experts”, bankers, and corporate executives is lies. They do not believe their lies, but they know it benefits themselves financially to lie, and as long as they work together, they know the ignorant masses will believe them.

George tells Jerry “It’s not a lie if you believe it” as he is going to take a lie detector test. I wonder how Fauci, Biden, Hillary, Obama, Comey, Wray, Pelosi, and the slew of other Deep State coup conspirators would fare on a lie detector test about Russiagate, Covidgate, J6 Insurrectiongate, and Vaccinegate. Based on the titanic volume of lies they have spewed over the last several years, I’m sure the machine would overheat and explode if hooked up to any of this traitorous vile scum.

The humorous phrase uttered by George Costanza on a sitcom twenty-seven years ago captures a significant kernel of truth about the mindset of the vast majority of non-critical thinking drones roaming the aisles of Wal-Marts and waiting in the drive-thru at McDonalds across our dystopian states of America. The lies run so deep you need hip-boots to wade through them on a daily basis. The reason our leaders lie is because we let them lie. The majority prefer comforting lies to unpleasant truths, because accepting unpleasant truths would require them to act and they prefer being distracted by trivialities like sports, reality TV, social media likes and otherwise being addicted to their technological gadgets.

“The process of mass-media deception has to be conscious, or it would not be carried out with sufficient precision, but it also has to be unconscious, or it

would bring with it a feeling of falsity and hence of guilt.... To tell deliberate lies while genuinely believing in them, to forget any fact that has become inconvenient, and then, when it becomes necessary again, to draw it back from oblivion for just so long as it is needed, to deny the existence of objective reality and all the while to take account of the reality which one denies all this is indispensably necessary.” - George Orwell

Orwell’s explanation of mass-media deception is a brilliant assessment of how the ruling class changes the narrative to suit their needs, and without blinking an eye are able to deny what they have said and done. Orwell saw this manipulation of the truth before TV, the internet, social media, or professionally created government propaganda existed. In his day only newspapers, radio, and speeches existed to push deception upon the public.

The proliferation of technologically enhanced mass-media deception has accomplished everything the ruling class/oligarchs/Big Brother surveillance state could hope for. Lies and deception are nothing more than a means to their ends of control, wealth, and power. Right and wrong; good and evil; justice and injustice; truth and falsity; humanity and inhumanity; are meaningless concepts to the corrupt, greedy, power hungry, immoral, deviant, evil overlords who wield their wealth to maintain and expand their control over the ignorant masses, unwilling and unable to resist because their indoctrination runs deep, and the unceasing propaganda keeps them confused and angry at phantom enemies.

The perfect example of Orwell’s mass media deception in practice has been this entire Covid hoax, which has been built on a foundation of lies from the very beginning. At the outset Fauci scoffed at the concept of masks providing any protection from a microscopic virus while being interviewed on 60 Minutes. He wasn’t lying. Numerous scientific studies documented by the CDC proved beyond a doubt, masks are absolutely useless in preventing the spread of viruses. But a few weeks later the covid controllers realized the usefulness of masks as the perfect fear inducing symbol of a fake

pandemic and the first step in demanding compliance and obedience by the masses.

Suddenly Fauci and his Big Pharma bought medical “expert” lackeys discarded the inconvenient facts that masks do not work, and piously preached that everyone must mask or mass death would occur. Any dissenting voice speaking the truth about masks was the enemy and needed to be silenced, scorned, ridiculed, and destroyed. The deception was aided and abetted by Twitter, Facebook, Google and the feckless MSM doing the bidding of the ruling elite, while being paid off by Big Pharma.

This was only the beginning of a worldwide conspiracy of lies. The videos from China of bodies in the streets were fake. Evidently to provoke fear among the global community. The purported origin of the virus being bats in a wet market in Wuhan was a lie concocted by Fauci, Daszik, and their Chinese co-conspirators to cover-up their illegal weaponization of viruses in the Wuhan Bio-weapon lab. **This cover-up was maintained by the dying legacy media, Twitter, Facebook, and Google through the censorship and banning of anyone (ZeroHedge) who dared question the government approved narrative.**

The demand for national lockdowns was built on the lies of Neil Ferguson, a 3rd rate academic, and his fear mongering Imperial College model of deaths if the world didn’t shut down. His ludicrous outcomes, based on false assumptions, were the basis for the disastrous decisions made by corrupt politicians across the world. The results in Sweden, which did not lockdown, have proven his

model to be worthless, and responsible for the destruction of the lives of millions across the globe.

They lied about social distancing, based on a 3rd grade girl's school paper. They used a PCR test improperly to falsely produce "positive" cases in order to terrify the masses into a mass formation psychosis. A case was not a sickness. They drastically overestimated the fatality rate and attributed the deaths of extremely old sick people to covid when they died from their existing malady. Only 6% of covid deaths can be attributed to strictly covid. The overall survival rate if you contracted covid is 99.7%, with anyone under 70 years old 99.9%. Virtually no one under 21 years old died from covid. It was less lethal than the annual flu to young people.

The overlords and their bevy of apparatchik whores in the government, media, and academia needed to ramp up the fear through rising cases, hospitalizations, and deaths in order to get rich off this plandemic, while planting the seeds of their Great Reset scheme to turn the world into a compliant surveillance state. The coup de grace of lies was to be the miraculous "Operation Warpspeed vaccine" which would rid the world of this perilous pestilence. Supposedly brilliant virologists developed amnesia over the concept of herd immunity, which has been known for centuries.

This War on Covid has gone as well as the War on Poverty and the War on Drugs, meaning it has been a complete and utter failure in defeating its supposed foe, but has been hugely successful in enriching politicians, corporations, and the multitude of toadies in the media, academia, and the bureaucracy who perpetuate the lies and disinformation they are paid handsomely to disgorge. **The lies engulfing the supposed vaccine run deep and wide.**

The entire vaccine scheme is built on an altar of lies, mistruths, misinformation, deception, and censorship. mRNA gene therapies have existed for decades and had consistently failed in application as every animal tested using these concoctions died. Pfizer faked their trial data, lied about adverse reactions, lied about long-term safety, lied about effects on pregnant women, and tried to keep these results hidden for seventy-five years. The tripe about these “vaccines” being safe effective has been and continues to be the Big Lie.

The emergency use authorization for these experimental jabs could only be given if there were no existing medications which were an effective treatment for the illness. There were dozens of scientific studies and world-renowned physicians acknowledging the effectiveness of both hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin in treating covid and alleviating its symptoms safely and effectively – and cheaply. That was the real problem. The hundreds of billions in profits to be made by Big Pharma, and then divvied up to politicians, legacy media companies, the FBI, and social media censorship arms of the ruling class, would be impossible if the truth about hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin was allowed to be acknowledged.

Therefore, Fauci and his sycophants claimed they were dangerous, horse de-wormer medicine, and ineffective. Twitter, Facebook, and Google censored and banned doctors who posted anything positive about either treatment. Meanwhile, Fauci sentenced tens of thousands to death by pushing Remdesivir, a treatment he financially benefitted from, and recommending ventilators for those with covid. Fauci sentenced tens of thousands to death by not allowing these treatments to be used. He deserves the same fate for his treacherous actions but is treated like a saint by the left-wing media and the Biden minions.

The biggest Orwellian mass-media deception of them all was what the “experts” unequivocally declared about their glorious vaccines. Just as every vaccine in history was supposed to keep you from contracting the illness you were vaccinated against, Fauci, Biden, Walensky, Gates, the Pfizer CEO, and a myriad of other paid “experts” told the global population they would not contract or spread covid once they were vaxxed. They are on video and in print declaring this to be true.

But when it was proven to be not true, they just denied they had ever said so. As long as the masses could be convinced the lie had become the truth, then the lie was the truth, according to the Party and its journalistic narrative guardians. Controlling the narrative through suppressing and censoring the truth is how they continue to maintain control. The release of the Twitter files by Musk confirms every “conspiracy theory” put into the public domain by the naysayers, critical thinkers, and a few honest journalists. They have lied about everything.



*"And if all others accepted the lie which the Party imposed—if all records told the same tale—then the lie passed into history and became truth. 'Who controls the past' ran the Party slogan, 'controls the future: who controls the present controls the past.' - **Orwell***

When confronted by the reality these experimental, toxic, gene altering, spike protein generating brews do not prevent anyone from contracting the virus, being hospitalized by the virus, or dying from the virus, **the powers that be just changed the definition of a vaccine and attempted to alter the narrative and pretend they had never said what they said.** How Orwellian of our Big Brother overlords. The past is alterable in a totalitarian regime.

*"The past was alterable. The past never had been altered. Oceania was at war with Eastasia. Oceania had always been at war with Eastasia." — **George Orwell, 1984***

Vaccination (pre-2015): Injection of a killed or weakened infectious organism in order to prevent the disease.

Vaccination (2015-2021): The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce immunity to a specific disease.

Vaccination (Sept 2021): The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce protection from a specific disease.

Even the current definition of vaccination is a lie. Not only does it not protect you from the virus, but the Antibody-Dependent Enhancement (ADE), warned about by highly regarded doctors like Robert Malone, Peter McCullough, and Pierre Kory over a year ago, is now happening to the vaxxed and boosted victims. Biden's lie about this being a pandemic of the unvaccinated has transformed to the truth we are experiencing a pandemic of the vaccinated. The vaccinated are now 4x as likely to contract covid as an unvaxxed person who has recovered from covid. Natural immunity, which has protected humanity for centuries, is real and far superior to these Big Pharma jabs.

The cognitive dissonance of the vaxxed runs deep. They are too embarrassed and ashamed to admit they were duped and lied to. How many more young people need to "die suddenly" before they turn on Fauci, Biden, Big Pharma CEOs, media talking heads, politicians, and the sickcare industrial complex, and hold them accountable? Is the mass formation psychosis too ingrained in their psyche to ever revolt?

The lies about the covid vaccines being safe and effective, promulgated through a multi-billion-dollar advertising campaign running non-stop for the last two years, paying famous athletes, Hollywood stars, social media influencers, and unethical doctors, are proving to be the most diabolical and fatal falsehoods ever perpetrated on global humanity. The "effective" nonsense was put to bed last year when covid spread faster after more than half the country was berated

and threatened into getting the jab, then a 2nd jab, then a 3rd jab, and then a booster, because the previous three failed.

And still half the country refuses to accept the truth because they don't want to question the narrative or abandon their fellow vaccine cultists. The "safe" garbage narrative is collapsing on a daily basis as factual data about sudden deaths, real scientific studies proving the extreme dangers of these vaxxes, fertility data, excess mortality data, a constant stream of reports about young people contracting myocarditis, having heart attacks, and developing blood clots, has swamped Fauci and his ship of lying fools - with the ultimate result of breaking the mass formation psychosis of the masses.

DRUG ADVERSE EVENT COMPARISON

FDA AND CDC DATA: WORLDWIDE

	Adverse events	Deaths	Deaths/year
<i>1/1/1996 – 9/30/2022:</i>			
Ivermectin	4,087	420	16
HCQ	27,144	2,018	75
Flu vaccines	199,494	2,049	77
Dexamethasone	97,207	18,194	680
Tylenol	123,980	28,507	1,066
<i>Since 2020:</i>			
Remdesivir	8,283	2,014	732
<i>In 23 months:</i>			
Covid vaccines	1,471,557	32,508	17,109

FDA FAERS system, CDC VAERS system. Reports from all locations worldwide. Data as of Nov. 25, 2022; downloaded Dec. 2, 2022.



Essentially, these vaccines are creating a slow-motion mass casualty event, and everyone involved in their premature use in human beings should stand trial for murder, but they won't. That is because the totalitarian Deep State has grown too powerful, too arrogant, and too filled with contempt for those they rule over. They feel invincible, as they blatantly steal elections, keep peaceful protestors in dungeons, assassinate those who might implicate them in child trafficking conspiracies, use the mechanisms of the surveillance state to crush all opposition, and collude with mass media networks and the Silicon Valley mafia media to suppress the truth and censor those who dare question the Deep State sanctioned narrative. The Twitter files confirm the deceit and treason at the highest levels of government, media, and military. Hannah Arendt describes how totalitarian regimes depend on fabrications to maintain their power.

"Before mass leaders seize the power to fit reality to their lies, their propaganda is marked by its extreme contempt for facts as such, for in their opinion fact depends entirely on the power of man who can fabricate it." — **Hannah Arendt, The Origins of Totalitarianism**

At this point in history virtually everything uttered by the president, any politician, government bureaucrat, media personality, corporate executive, medical "expert", and faux journalist is a fabrication, exaggeration, disinformation or outright lie. The list of lies is never ending, and has been going on since Adam and Eve, but the quantity and audaciousness of the lies in recent times has accelerated to a point where the totalitarians no longer fear revelations about their lies. They are comfortable knowing the masses will believe absurdities as long as they confirm their ideologies, biases, and beliefs.

The masses do not mind being lied to because they are entranced by narratives created to keep them under control and focused on whichever enemy they are propagandized to hate, whether it be Trump, lockdown and mask dissenters, anti-vaxxers, phantom white supremacists, J6 "insurrectionists", the Russians, or "election deniers". Provenly bold faced liars like Biden and Fauci are admired and celebrated for their dedication to the narrative, despite its falseness. It happened in Nazi Germany, Stalinist Soviet Union, Mao's Communist China, and today as we plunge towards a new world order totalitarianism of unknown outcomes and atrocities.

"Mass propaganda discovered that its audience was ready at all times to believe the worst, no matter how absurd, and did not particularly object to being

deceived because it held every statement to be a lie anyhow. The totalitarian mass leaders based their propaganda on the correct psychological assumption that, under such conditions, one could make people believe the most fantastic statements one day, and trust that if the next day they were given irrefutable proof of their falsehood, they would take refuge in cynicism; instead of deserting the leaders who had lied to them, they would protest that they had known all along that the statement was a lie and would admire the leaders for their superior tactical cleverness.” — Hannah Arendt, The Origins of Totalitarianism

I think a list of big lies is sufficient to prove we are ruled by totalitarian ideologues who don't care their lies are destroying our country, culture, and societal norms. During my lifetime: they lied about JFK's assassination; they lied about the Gulf of Tonkin to get us into the Vietnam War; they lied about 9/11; they lied about WMD in Iraq; they lied about the 2008 financial collapse; they lied about the 2014 CIA coup in the Ukraine creating the havoc we have today; they lied about global warming and had to switch to climate change when the original lie was revealed; they lied about Russiagate and their coup against Trump, they lied about the “peaceful” BLM protests; they lied about the cause of George Floyd's death (fentanyl overdose); they lie about child trafficking and grooming; they lie about butchering children in the name of gender identity; they lied about Hunter Biden's computer and the Biden family crime syndicate; they lied about rigging the 2020 election; they lied about Epstein's “suicide”; they lied about the FBI and Pelosi staging the January 6 “insurrection”; they lied about colluding with Twitter, Facebook, and Google to influence elections and create a fake pandemic; they are lying about our border being safe and secure; they are lying that Biden isn't a dementia ridden puppet controlled by Obama, Soros, and Gates; they are lying that Sam Bankman-Fried and his FTX money laundering operation wasn't an arm of the Democrat party, using ill-gotten funds and funneling it to Democrat candidates; and they are lying about their intentions to destroy our society through suicidal economic, social, and legal policies in order to usher in a totalitarian Great Reset New World Order run by wealthy elites and their detestable acolytes. Our dystopian nightmare is on-par with Orwell's.

"The atom bombs are piling up in the factories, the police are prowling through the cities, the lies are streaming from the loudspeakers, but the earth is still going round the sun." - George Orwell

Totalitarian regimes have tremendous success using fake data and fake charts to give the appearance of truth to a populace too willfully ignorant to investigate whether the data and charts are a truthful and accurate reflection of reality. It is so much easier to believe supposed experts than it is to think critically and question the narrative, especially when they are telling you what you want to hear. Even though the average person knows their financial situation has steadily deteriorated over the last two decades, along with the financial situation of the country, they still believe the fake data vomited on a daily basis by the government and Wall Street banking cabal.

They are lying about the inflation rate being 7%. It is more than double the government reported figure, based upon the calculation from 1980 when Volker needed to raise the Fed Funds Rate to 18%.

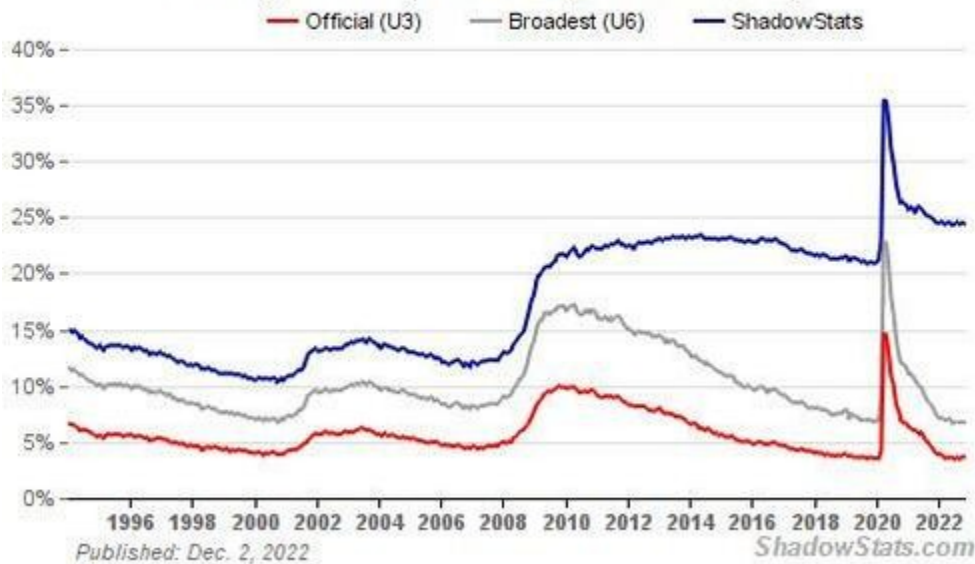
Consumer Inflation - Official vs ShadowStats (1980-Based) Alternate
Year to Year Change. Through Nov. 2022



They are lying about the 3.7% unemployment rate. The total working age population is 265 million, up from 212 million in 2000. There are 158 million employed today, versus 137 million in 2000. The unemployment rate in 2000 of 4% is virtually the same as the rate reported today. How could that be if the working age population went up by 53 million, but employment only went up by 21 million? Quite a conundrum. It's easy if you lie. According to the government 100 million working age Americans choose not to work, therefore they aren't unemployed. That number was 70 million in 2000. Fully 40% of our working age citizens are not working today, but the government tells you our unemployment rate is 3.7%. This might be the biggest lie ever told.

Unemployment Rate - Official (U-3 & U-6) vs ShadowStats Alternate

Monthly SA. Through Nov. 2022 (ShadowStats, BLS)



The government has reported positive real GDP growth for most of the past two decades, with short-term dips in 2008/2009 and due to covid in 2020. Those figures are lies. Using a truthful inflation figure shows GDP has barely stayed flat for the last 20 years. The great American economy hasn't grown in 20 years. We are a dying lying empire of debt. Our national debt grew from \$5.7 trillion in 2000 to \$31.5 trillion today. The debt to GDP ratio has gone from 55% in 2000 to 122% today. Throughout history, when this ratio exceeds 90%, economic disaster follows.



The biggest lie has been perpetrated by the Wall Street controlled Federal Reserve, whose mandates are a stable currency and low unemployment. With a straight face these jokers declare they have succeeded, while the USD has lost 97% of its purchasing power since the deceitful inception of the Federal Reserve in 1913, and the real unemployment rate is north of 20%. Losing the last 3% of purchasing power guarantees to be the most painful.



After documenting the outrageous multitude of lies being told by those controlling the levers of society, I'm torn regarding whether I trust enough people can be awakened from their self-induced stupor of belief in authority to mount a counter-offensive of truth. I guess I wouldn't be writing articles about

these subjects unless I thought there was a kernel of hope I could plant with my reasoning. But I find myself drawn more towards the conclusion reached by Alexandre Koyré over fifty years ago about mobs and the ease with which totalitarian authority figures can manipulate them:

“The mob believes everything it is told, provided only that it be repeated over and over. Provided too that its passions, hatreds, fears are catered to. Nor need one try to stay within the limits of plausibility: on the contrary, the grosser, the bigger, the cruder the lie, the more readily is it believed and followed. Nor is there any need to avoid contradictions: the mob never notices; needless to pretend to correlate what is said to some with what is said to others: each person or group believes only what he is told, not what anyone else is told; needless to strive for coherence: the mob has no memory; needless to pretend to any truth: the mob is radically incapable of perceiving it: the mob can never comprehend that its own interests are what is at stake.” — **Alexandre Koyré, Réflexions sur le mensonge**

When the mob has been essentially hypnotized by totalitarian authority figures, unbound from the law through illegally invoking “emergency” powers to ensure the safety of the masses, it takes massive bloodshed and enormous upheaval before the mob will come to their senses and realize their dreadful misplacement of trust in tyrants. Personally, I hope I am wrong about what lies ahead, but I don’t see a pathway towards a peaceful, reasoned resolution of what plagues our country and the world.

Fools, knaves, and low IQ ideologues control the narrative, the political power, the media messaging, the banks, and the minds of the mob. We can attempt to distance ourselves from the onslaught, but there really is no way to escape the impact of a Fourth Turning, whether it be global conflict, civil chaos, financial Armageddon, or the wrath of the mob for being right about the vaccines, politicians, or the financial markets. I am not surprised or upset about the lies told to me by those running the show. Nietzsche and Carlin, two brilliant thinkers, pretty much sum up my feelings.

“I’m not upset that you lied to me, I’m upset that from now on I can’t believe you.” — **Friedrich Nietzsche**

"My first rule: I don't believe anything the government tells me. Nothing. Zero." – **George Carlin**

Very few people who need to awaken from their propaganda induced stupor of believing absurdities will read this article. Those who are already awake and can see what is happening clearly have few or no options to impact the course we are traveling. Too few see the iceberg dead ahead as the U.S. Titanic accelerates towards its rendezvous with destiny. We can shout and wave our hands, but there is nothing we can do to alter the course of an empire run by idiot ideologues, hellbent on the destruction of our ship of state. As Bradbury presciently noted in his masterpiece of societal self-immolation, I can't make people listen to a message they don't want to hear.

"But you can't make people listen. They have to come round in their own time, wondering what happened and why the world blew up around them. It can't last." — **Ray Bradbury, Fahrenheit 451**

At this point I'm torn between the darkness of Orwell's vision and the stoic attitude put forth by Tolkien. We are living in a time of universal deceit and telling the truth feels like a revolutionary act when the mob is under the spell of mass formation psychosis. It is an interesting dichotomy that this article will only be read by a small audience of people who already agree with most of my arguments. If it ever reached a wider audience, I would be attacked by the mob, censored, threatened, and doxed in an attempt to destroy my life. So be it.

I will do what I can do with my limited resources, protect my loved ones, strengthen relationships with like-minded hobbits, disconnect from this warped and deviant society as much as possible, distance myself from the government, prepare for an uncertain future, and try my best to navigate the perils ahead. We only have a limited time on this earth to make a difference. We each must decide what we do with the time given us. God help us.

"I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo. "So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us." — **J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring**

"The world is indeed full of peril, and in it there are many dark places; but still there is much that is fair, and though in all lands love is now mingled with grief, it grows perhaps the greater." — **J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring**

* * *

It is Jim's sincere desire to provide readers of his site with the best unbiased information available, and a forum where it can be discussed openly, as our Founders intended. But it is not easy nor inexpensive to do so, especially when those who wish to prevent us from making the truth known, attack us without mercy on all fronts on a daily basis. Please consider contributing an amount commensurate to the value that you receive from this site and community, or even by becoming a sustaining supporter through periodic contributions.

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Censorship December.31 what twitter did..

1. History changed because of this:

- Hunter Biden's alleged corruption censored
- Covid 19 lockdown debate stifled
- Trump silenced

You may agree with each decision. But there is no denying that halting information flow and free debate had real consequences.

2. Many things called conspiracy theories were true:

- FBI was working w Twitter and paid TW \$ millions
- Blacklists & shadow bans were real
- US intel lobbied to censor accounts
- Covid-19 convo heavily manipulated
- Twitter rules changed & enforced by whim

3. Censorship is being cloaked in the language of safety:

- 'Safety, harm, violence' redefined to apply to ideas
- Opinions & info deemed 'unsafe' subject to silencing
- Jokes, memes, questions about origin of covid off limits

4. The government is policing opinion:

- FBI has 80 staff monitoring speech
- Small accounts on left and right flagged
- FBI held frequent meetings w TW
- Facebook, Youtube, and Instagram = similar?
- Private censors & police control what you say to whom.

5. Social media executives lie freely:

- Twitter execs repeatedly and publicly denied shadow bans
- In reality, bans were in place as "visibility filtering"
- Ultimately, no accountability to public

6. Free speech is controlled by a small group:

- Biggest decisions in Twitter Files made by 3-4 individuals
- Despite misgivings and doubts, once made, decisions stuck
- Now it's Musk.

One difference: his embrace of public polls to set policy.

7. The slippery slope is real:

- Staff rebellion led to Trump ban
- Staff called for more covid-19 censorship
- 2021-22 saw increase of bans and 'one-offs'

This is how you get Billy Baldwin in the crosshairs.

Once you silence a president, who has a right to speak?

8. Musk has made enemies:

- Leaking to indy media
- Expressing opinions on Fauci
- Suspending journalist accounts

I expect his businesses will see counterattacks. Now is a good time to refocus—and let the users decide how to uphold free speech.

TLDR

1. History changed
2. Conspiracy theories true
3. 'Safety' = censorship
4. Government policed ideas
5. Executives lied
6. Speech controlled by small group
7. Slippery slope is real
8. Musk must watch out

**Government, censorship, tech,
stats: \$1.7 TRILLION SPENDING BILL
REQUIRES PLATFORMS TO VERIFY ID OF
THOSE EARNING \$5,000 REVENUE PER YEAR**

Holy roman empire, history, stats, church: the practice of usury can be traced back approximately four thousand years

Despite its Judaic roots, the critique of usury was most fervently taken up as a cause by the institutions of the Christian Church where the debate prevailed with great intensity for well over a thousand years[v]. The Old Testament decrees were resurrected and a New Testament reference to usury added to fuel the case[vi]. Building on the authority of these texts, the Roman Catholic Church had by the fourth century AD prohibited the taking of interest by the clergy; a rule which they extended in the fifth century to the laity. In the eighth century under Charlemagne, they pressed further and declared usury to be a general criminal offence. This anti-usury movement continued to gain momentum during the early Middle Ages and perhaps reached its zenith in 1311 when Pope Clement V made the ban on usury absolute and declared all secular legislation in its favour, null and void (Birnie, 1952).

Ai, tech: iRobot was founded in 1990 by MIT's Artificial Intelligence Lab (the AI project was founded in 1959)

The AI Lab was founded as the AI project in 1959

War, stats: Asymmetric warfare:describes what is also called guerrilla warfare, insurgency, counterinsurgency, rebellion, terrorism, and counter-terrorism

Asymmetric warfare is **a form of irregular warfare - conflicts in which enemy combatants are not regular military forces of nation-states**. The term is frequently used to describe what is also called guerrilla warfare, insurgency, counterinsurgency, rebellion, terrorism, and counter-terrorism.

Stats, health: medical error third leading cause of death according to multiple studies over a period of 50 years

Death by medical error or accident is the nation's leading cause of accidental death, exceeding [all other causes](#) of accidental death combined. Medical error and accidents kill approximately as many people each month in the U.S. as Covid-19 did before vaccines became available.

Yet there's no Operation Warp Speed for preventing medical errors, no national investment of billions of dollars to develop solutions, and no national urgency about solving the problem.

That's more than enough to make medical care gone awry the [number three cause of death](#) in the U.S., after heart disease and cancer.

The Institute for Health care Improvement created a technique known as the [Global Trigger](#), which scours medical records for subtle indications that a patient suffered unexpected harm. A 2013 [meta-analysis](#) of Global Trigger studies found 10 times as many adverse events as found by conventional records reviews, with deaths numbering as many as 440,000 per year. Other studies, using on-scene observers, have found comparable numbers of incidents.

<https://www.statnews.com/2021/08/04/medical-errors-accidents-ongoing-preventable-health-threat/>

"Meta-analytic results are considered the most trustworthy source of evidence by the [evidence-based medicine](#) literature."

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meta-analysis>

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Medical Error Is Not the Third Leading Cause of Death

An alarming statistic shared by countless people is based on a highly problematic bit of data extrapolation and has been used to paint all of medicine as untrustworthy



Jonathan Jarry M.Sc. | 27 Aug 2021
Critical Thinking

f in Tweet

<https://www.mcgill.ca/oss/article/critical-thinking-health/medical-error-not-third-leading-cause-death>

vaccine, censorship: Top Doctor Accuses Twitter of Killing People Through Their Censorship of Legitimate Science

“Censorship of the correct science and medical information, during this pandemic, absolutely killed people. It prevented people from making intelligent decisions. It prevented people from making the appropriate use of caution,” Atlas alleged of [Twitter](#) censoring doctors such as himself.

zerohedgedotcom/covid-19/twitters-covid-19-censorship-led-loss-life-says-former-white-house-adviser-dr-scott-atlas

vaccine, censorship: COVID testing company contracted by Canadian govt led by defense minister’s husband

“Minister of Defence Anita Anand failed to acknowledge any potential conflict of interest despite millions in federal contracts being awarded to a company that had not previously done much business with the government.

Before the COVID crisis hit, according to Blacklock's Reporter, LifeLabs received few federal contracts. **In 2019, it only received \$134,413 from the feds.**

....

As for Anand, she was elected an MP and then appointed Public Works Ministers in the fall of 2019.

LifeLabs was recently awarded \$111 million for testing services in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon."

lifesitenews.com/news/covid-testing-company-contracted-by-canadian-govt-lead-by-defense-ministers-husband/

tech, ai, government: Klaus Schwab: "If I had to define Industry 4.0 in one sentence I would say that this is an integration of physical, biological and technological experience"

<https://en.ktu.edu/news/professor-klaus-schwab-there-is-a-lack-of-skills-not-jobs/>

tech, stats, censorship, government: 10 years ago, scientists did a study of movement data from 1.5 million people, and concluded that just 4 points in space and time were enough to identify 95% of people

"Way back in 2013, a group of scientists studied 15 months of human mobility [movement data](#) collected from 1.5 million people. They concluded that just four points in space and time were enough to identify 95 percent of those people."

Tech, government, censorship, stats: internet of things (IoT) devices are easy to hack into

Tech, china, government: China has more than 50 percent of all surveillance cameras installed in the world, with almost 34 cameras per 1,000 people.

Africa, war, history: famines in somalia

Sadly, the worst part of the war has been the weather. Drought came in 2010–2012 and again in 2015–2017. Crops failed across the whole Horn of Africa, but Somalia was hit the hardest because they were at war. The farmers had not had a chance to sow their crops or to harvest them. They had no transportation, so whatever crops could be grown could not reach the market, which was closed anyway because no one had any money. The entire system of food distribution and services in Somalia completely broke down. People were lying down and dying in refugee camps on the sides of the highways. A quarter of a million of them had starved to death by the beginning of 2013. The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET), a U.S. and UK-backed non-governmental organization (NGO) that keeps track of global famines, said that more than half of the 250,000 who had died were children under five years old. The elderly were also among those hit hardest by the mass starvation. A million people had been driven from their homes.

America helped to reduce Somalia to the most desperate state. Then in 2011, President Obama sent President Bill Clinton's old friend and national security adviser, Anthony Lake, to take charge of distributing international food relief. These efforts fell far short. The food relief did not get to the starving people out in the countryside. The warlords seized it all to feed their soldiers and sell the rest. Also in 2011, the Kenyan invasion disrupted the distribution of food aid. This has been one of the worst humanitarian crises of this century, inflicted by the most powerful nation in history against one of the weakest – people who have done nothing to us. In 2017, FEWSNET reported that mortality and under-five mortality rates remained at emergency levels. In 2020, the Cost of War Project estimated that 46 percent of Somalia's population have been displaced since the U.S. began its latest intervention at the dawn of the War on Terrorism.

By mid-2007, 50,000 Ethiopian troops invaded Somalia in late 2006

But one of the released WikiLeaks cables suggests a different picture, one that implicates Frazer in pressing Ethiopia's President Meles Zenawi to invade his

neighbor. The content of the cable is being widely discussed in [the African media](#). It exposes a secret deal cut between the United States and Ethiopia to invade Somalia.

Vaccine, censorship: dec9 Duke University Hospital Denies Life Saving Kidney Transplant to Dying 14-Year-Old Girl for Being Unvaccinated

Duke University Hospital Denies Life Saving Kidney Transplant to Dying 14-Year-Old Girl for Being Unvaccinated

(confirmation of **real story** status) "In a statement, Brigham and Women's Hospital confirmed its decision to remove Ferguson from the list, saying, "Like many other transplant programs in the United States — the COVID-19 vaccine is one of several vaccines and lifestyle behaviors required for transplant candidates in the Mass General Brigham system in order to create both the best chance for a successful operation and also the patient's survival after transplantation."

Vaccine, health, china, censorship: dec9 China's asymptomatic issue. Something i remember reading about in the summer, I think..

[Chinese politics & policy](#)

China's disappearing data stokes fears of hidden Covid wave

Low official case number and death toll puzzle analysts after Beijing lifts Covid testing requirements

Closed testing booths outside the Shanghai Railway Station. Pandemic controls have been relaxed just weeks after daily cases nationwide hit 40,000 © Aly Song/Reuters

- [China's disappearing data stokes fears of hidden Covid wave on twitter \(opens in a new window\)](#)
- [China's disappearing data stokes fears of hidden Covid wave on facebook \(opens in a new window\)](#)
- [China's disappearing data stokes fears of hidden Covid wave on linkedin \(opens in a new window\)](#)
-

current progress 0%

[Edward White](#) in Seoul and [Qianer Liu](#) in Hong Kong

53 MINUTES AGO

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China is starting to under-report coronavirus cases and fatalities, which experts warn is obscuring the scale and severity of the health crisis just as the world's most populous country enters its deadliest phase of the pandemic.

Official statistics on Friday revealed no new deaths and only 16,363 locally transmitted coronavirus cases in [China](#), less than half the peak caseload reported last month.

That is despite a stunning U-turn over the past week to relax President Xi Jinping's heavy-handed pandemic controls, which means the virus is certain to spread.

The [sweeping changes to Xi's zero-Covid policy](#) allow asymptomatic or mild cases to isolate at home rather than in centralised

quarantine, and slashed China's mass testing and contact tracing requirements.

The sudden reversal came weeks after Covid-19 cases hit a record high of more than 40,000 a day, with every region of the country reporting an Omicron outbreak.

Despite the official numbers suggesting the caseload had halved, Raymond Yeung, China economist at ANZ bank, said that on-the-ground observations indicated some cities, including Baoding, in the northern province of Hebei, already had "high infection numbers". More big cities, he said, would soon endure similar levels of infections.

"Like Hong Kong, the actual infection data will no longer be informative. As the 'official' infection figures decline, the government can eventually claim their success against the virus," Yeung said.

Gulf widens between reported cases and projected estimates

Daily reported Covid-19 cases vs projected number of cases based on epidemic modelling



A chart showing China's daily reported Covid-19 cases vs projected number of cases based on epidemic modelling, highlighting that the discrepancy between official caseload and model projection is widening.

Dec 4 Nov 27 Nov 20 Nov 13 Nov

680,000 60,000 40,000 20,000 **Reported** **Reported** **Projected** **Projected**

Source: China's National Health Commission, Wigram Capital Advisors

FT Data: Andy Lin/@imandylin2

The situation echoes the [dearth of official information](#) during the disastrous initial outbreak in Wuhan nearly three years ago. Local officials and analysts warned that the reduced testing, as well as gaps in reporting of both cases and deaths, would make it harder to assess the risk to the world's second-biggest economy.

"The behaviour of case numbers is very similar to 2020, where we had one [to] two weeks with genuine case numbers, before the veil

was drawn,” said Rodney Jones, principal at Wigram Capital Advisors, an Asia-focused macroeconomic advisory group.

“We have no idea whether we will see actual case data again, and whether the sharp downshift in cases reflects reduced testing . . . or political management of the case data,” Jones added.

A critical missing piece of information is the rate of positive tests, which is important for determining actual infection. Nor is the real-time effective R value published, depriving observers of a vital measure of the rate at which the disease is spreading.

There are also discrepancies between Chinese regions in how cause of death is determined and the definition of “symptomatic”. In some cities, including Shanghai, a chest scan is required before Covid diagnosis.

Xi’s decision to loosen strictures has led to fears of an unparalleled wave of infections and a sharply rising death toll. Wigram has projected as many as 1mn deaths over the winter months.

China has reported 5,235 coronavirus deaths, with the latest additions on Sunday. More than 4,600 fatalities were reported in the first few months of 2020 and about 600 during Shanghai’s lockdown in April and May this year.

One provincial health official said deaths would “normally” only be recorded if a person tested positive before seeking medical attention. They added that many colleagues were questioning the veracity of the official death toll after authorities concealed fatality data in 2020.

“Those who present with symptoms but have not had time to be tested and die from an underlying disease, these would be missed,” the official said.

An ICU doctor in Guangzhou, a city in southern China, said the data’s usefulness was complicated by the fact that many seriously ill patients were avoiding hospitalisation. Others were unable to obtain the PCR test result required for hospital treatment because of reduced testing.

Chinese officials and state media said the policy changes were designed to “contain the epidemic in a more science-based and targeted manner”.

Public health messaging has also intensified to encourage vaccinations among the nearly 90mn elderly Chinese who [remain inadequately protected from the virus](#).

Asymptomatic cases drop after China ends compulsory testing

Daily reported Covid-19 cases

Symptomatic

Asymptomatic

A chart showing China's daily reported symptomatic and asymptomatic cases, highlighting that asymptomatic cases, usually found by compulsory testing, dropped drastically while symptomatic cases remain stable.

Dec 1 Nov 1 Oct 10 40,000 30,000 20,000 10,000

Source: China's National Health Commission

FT Data: Andy Lin/@imandylin2

However, public anxiety is increasing about the healthcare system's capacity to handle a big rise in Covid cases and the discrepancy between the official narrative and reality.

"We should address the problem — either report real figures or stop publishing them," Hu Xijin, a former editor of the Global Times, a nationalist tabloid, wrote in a social media post, adding that disseminating "severely distorted figures to the public" was damaging the authority of official information.

Hospitals in Beijing have [started running out of medical supplies](#), including ibuprofen and paracetamol, as health workers fight an outbreak spreading rapidly through the Chinese capital. Yet the Chinese capital reported just 2,654 official new infections on Friday for the day prior.

Ben Cowling, a professor of epidemiology at the University of Hong Kong, warned of the risks of abandoning testing requirements and reporting cases inaccurately.

"As testing intensity is reduced, it will be more difficult to maintain situational awareness of the level of infections in the community, and interpretation of case counts will be more nuanced," he said.

Yanzhong Huang at the Council for Foreign Relations think-tank, noted that after the November surge in cases, there were “so many asymptomatic cases and so few severe cases”.

“That is puzzling,” he said. “Does that mean they have a different way of counting Covid-related deaths?”

Recommended

[Coronavirus pandemic](#)

[China risks 1mn Covid deaths in ‘winter wave’, modelling shows](#)

Others maintained that after nearly three years, the costs of mass testing, coupled with China’s contact tracing system, had become unsustainable.

As [local government coffers dried up](#), the decision to depart from mass testing was essentially forced upon Beijing, said Sam Radwan, principal at Enhance International, a consultancy.

“Beijing Social Insurance Fund Management Center has run out of money. They’re having a hard time paying bills for the first time in a very long time,” Radwan said, referring to the capital’s agency responsible for funding health services.

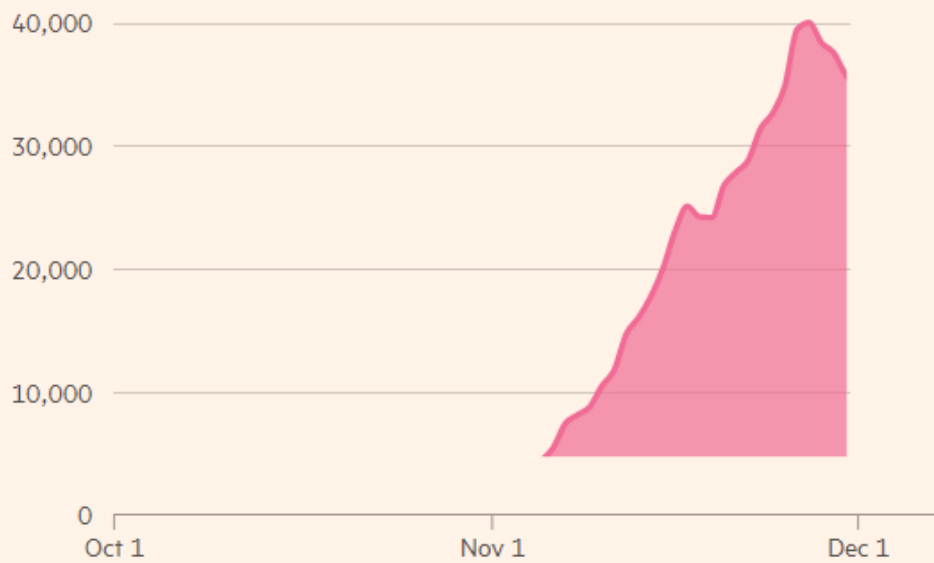
“That’s why you were seeing they’re shutting down testing booths before they’re removing the restrictions.”

Additional reporting by William Langley, Andy Lin, Gloria Li and Eleanor Olcott in Hong Kong

Asymptomatic cases drop after China ends compulsory testing

Daily reported Covid-19 cases

■ Symptomatic ■ Asymptomatic



Source: China's National Health Commission

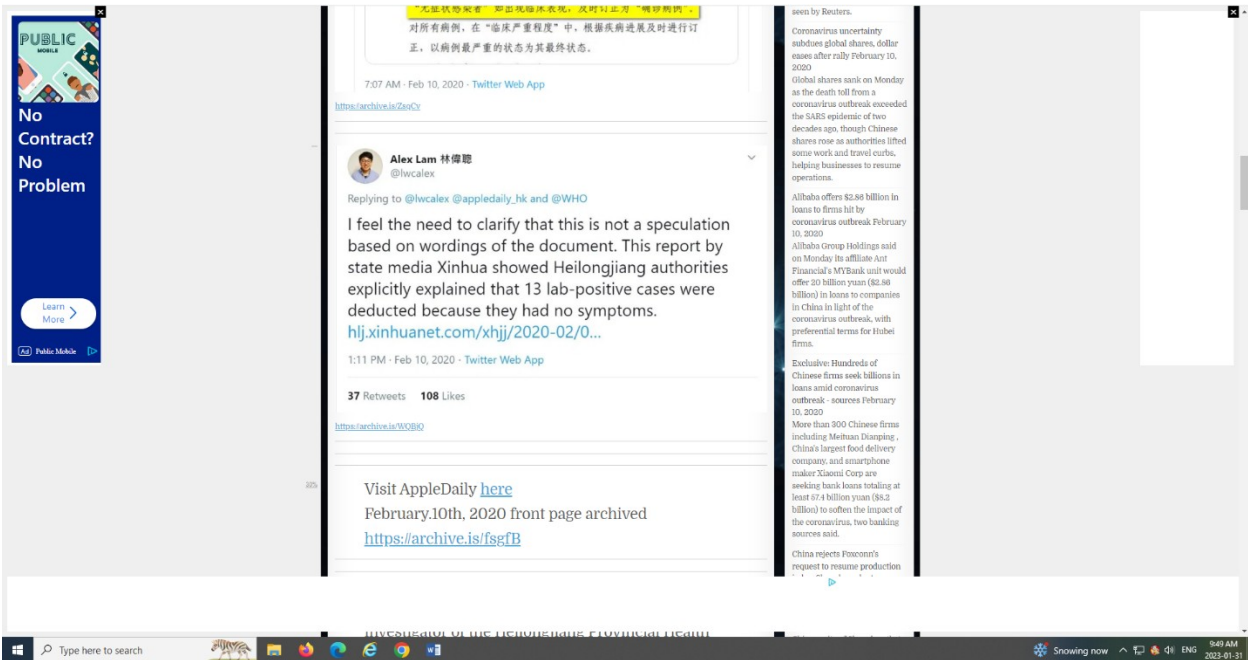
FINANCIAL TIMES

Vaccine, censorship, china, sanctions, war, stats, health:

From February 10th, 2020, including in this document on date: jan31

[FULL REVIEW]China Changes 'Confirmed Case' Methodology: Infected Without Symptoms (Asymptomatic) Now Does NOT Constitute a 'CONFIRMED CASE' According to Alex Lam of AppleDaily.HK

Beijing and Shanghai Now Locked Down — Two Both 2nd and 3rd Most Populated Cities in the World



Visit AppleDaily [here](https://archive.is/fsgfB)
February.10th, 2020 front page archived
<https://archive.is/fsgfB>

“According to Zhao Yuhui, a second-level investigator of the Heilongjiang Provincial Health and Health Committee’s Medical Administration and Medical Administration Division, on the 8th, **14 patients were deducted from Heilongjiang Province, the positive cases of nucleic acid testing are divided into confirmed cases and asymptomatic infection**, rather than collectively referred to as confirmed cases”.

“What are asymptomatic infections, how are these patients screened out, do ordinary people asymptomatic need to go to relevant institutions for examination? Sun Wei explained that asymptomatic infection refers to patients who have no clinical symptoms of infection with the new coronavirus (such as fever, fatigue, pneumonia, etc.), but who have a positive nasopharyngeal swab virus nucleic acid test”.

http://hlj.xinhuanet.com/xhjj/2020-02/09/c_138768326.htm

<https://archive.is/Q3BAL>

the positive cases of nucleic acid testing are divided into

*confirmed cases and **asymptomatic infection***

[Taiwan News was founded 6 June 1949 by James Wei as China News](#)

“TAIPEI (Taiwan News) — As many experts question the veracity of China’s statistics for the Wuhan coronavirus outbreak, Tencent over the weekend appeared to inadvertently release what is potentially the actual number of infections and deaths — which are far higher than official figures, but eerily in line with predictions from a respected scientific journal.

As early as Jan. 26, netizens were reporting that Tencent, on its webpage titled “Epidemic Situation Tracker,” briefly showed data on the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in China that was much higher than official estimates, before suddenly switching to lower numbers. Hiroki Lo,

a 38-year-old Taiwanese beverage store owner, that day reported that Tencent and NetEase were both posting “unmodified statistics,” before switching to official numbers in short order”.

<https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3871594>

<https://archive.is/GNeKy>





Feb. 1 chart showing higher numbers (left), chart showing "official" numbers (right).
(Internet image)

“However, the “internal” data held by Beijing may not reflect the true extent of the epidemic. According to multiple sources in Wuhan, many coronavirus patients are unable to receive treatment and die outside of hospitals”.

Zerohedge: “This Is How China Is Rigging The Number Of Coronavirus Infections”

Reddit conversation: “China changes who qualifies as “confirmed”. This will cause numbers to decrease”.

<https://archive.is/5x9pW#selection-1433.0-1433.80>

https://old.reddit.com/r/Wuhan_Flu/comments/f1qrmr/china_changes_who_qualifies_as_confirmed_this/

(Translated) Official Chinese News Release
“At 04:00 on February 9th, 31 provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities) and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps reported that 3062 new cases were diagnosed (2618 in Hubei), 296 cases were severely added (258 in Hubei), and new There were 97 deaths (91 in Hubei, 2 in Anhui, 1 each in Heilongjiang, Jiangxi, Hainan, and Gansu), and 4008 new suspected cases (2272 in Hubei).

On the same day, 632 newly discharged cases were cured (356 in Hubei), and 29,307 close contacts were lifted from medical observation. As of 24:00 on February 9, according to reports from 31 provinces (autonomous regions,

municipalities) and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, there were 35,982 confirmed cases (of which 6,484 were severe cases), a total of 3,281 discharged cases were cured, and 908 died. A total of 40,171 confirmed cases have been reported (87 cases in Hubei, 1 case in Jiangxi and Gansu), and 23,589 suspected cases. A total of 399,487 close contacts were traced, and 187,518 close contacts were still in medical observation. A total of 64 confirmed cases were reported from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan: 36 cases in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (1 death), 10 cases in the Macau Special Administrative Region (1 case was cured and discharged), and 18 cases in Taiwan (1 case was cured and discharged)".

2020-02-10

<http://www.nhc.gov.cn/xcs/yqtb/202002/167a0e01b2d24274b03b2ca961107929.shtml>

<https://archive.is/toSSg>

February 10, 2020 5:00 pm

["British traveller may have spread novel coronavirus across Europe, officials say", Global News](#)

zerohedgedotcom/health/how-china-rigging-number-coronavirus-infections

<https://archive.is/M4YhO>

Nov 18, 2022 Russian oil price cap ‘the most ridiculous idea I’ve ever heard’, Steven Mnuchin

Trump’s former Treasury secretary calls G-7 Russian oil price cap ‘the most ridiculous idea I’ve ever heard’

HOME > NEWS

Sleep Where Steve Mnuchin Hath Slept

And also where Louise Linton has likely cried during sex.

JON SHAZAR • UPDATED: JAN 14, 2019 • ORIGINAL: SEP 13, 2018



Steve Mnuchin is selling a home, and it's not one of the ones he [illegally foreclosed upon](#) or the one with the [horseshit stain on the porch](#). The Treasury Secretary is [asking \\$32.5 million for a duplex at 740 Park](#) that's been in his family for a half-century, and if you're the buyer, we wish you luck on your mental gymnastics trying not to imagine the dissociative face of Louise Linton during long, sleepless nights on her marital bed—at least before she [discovered true love late last year](#)—in one of the residence's five bedrooms.



The measure, which is due to be implemented early next month, is *"not only not feasible, I think it's the most ridiculous idea I've ever heard,"* Mnuchin said.

The former official said that *"the market is going to set the price. So if you put sanctions on at higher prices, in a way you're just making the situation worse."*

Planet, stats: dec9 Climate-Change Lockdowns? Yup, They Are Actually Going There...

[*Authored by Michael Snyder via The End of The American Dream blog.*](#)

I suppose that we should have known that this was inevitable. After establishing a precedent during the pandemic, now the elite apparently intend to impose lockdowns for other reasons as well. What I have detailed in this article is extremely alarming, and I hope that you will share it with everyone that you can. Climate change lockdowns are here, and if people don't respond very strongly to this it is likely that we will soon see similar measures implemented all over the western world. The elite have always promised to do

“whatever it takes” to fight climate change, and now we are finding out that they weren’t kidding.

Over in the UK, residents of Oxfordshire will now need a special permit to go from one “zone” of the city to another. But even if you have the permit, you will still only be allowed to go from one zone to another [“a maximum of 100 days per year”](#)...

Oxfordshire County Council yesterday approved plans to lock residents into one of six zones to ‘save the planet’ from global warming. The latest stage in the ‘15 minute city’ agenda is to place electronic gates on key roads in and out of the city, confining residents to their own neighbourhoods.

Under the new scheme if residents want to leave their zone they will need permission from the Council who gets to decide who is worthy of freedom and who isn’t. Under the new scheme residents will be allowed to leave their zone a maximum of 100 days per year, but in order to even gain this every resident will have to register their car details with the council who will then track their movements via smart cameras round the city.

Are residents of Oxfordshire actually going to put up with this?

[ZH: [Paul Joseph Watson notes](#) that the local authorities in Oxford tried to ‘fact check’ the article claiming they’re imposing de facto ‘climate lockdowns’, but ended basically admitting that’s exactly what they’re doing...]

I never thought that we would actually see this sort of a thing get implemented in the western world, but here we are.

Of course there are a few people that are loudly objecting to this new plan, but one Oxfordshire official [is pledging](#) that “the controversial plan would go ahead whether people liked it or not”.

Ouch.

Meanwhile, **France has decided [to completely ban certain short-haul flights](#) in an attempt to reduce carbon emissions...**

France can now make you train rather than plane.

The European Commission (EC) has given French officials the green light to ban select domestic flights if the route in question can be completed via train in under two and a half hours.

The plan was first proposed in 2021 as a means to reduce carbon emissions. It originally called for a ban on eight short-haul flights, but the EC has only agreed to nix three that have quick, easy rail alternatives with several direct connections each way every day.

This is nuts.

But if the French public accepts these new restrictions, similar bans will inevitably be coming to other EU nations.

In the Netherlands, the government is actually going to be buying and shutting down approximately 3,000 farms in order to [“reduce its nitrogen pollution”](#)...

The Dutch government is planning to purchase and then close down up to 3,000 farms in an effort to comply with a European Union environmental mandate to slash emissions, according to reports.

Farmers in the Netherlands will be offered “well over” the worth of their farm in an effort to take up the offer voluntarily, The Telegraph reported. The country is attempting to reduce its nitrogen pollution and will make the purchases if not enough farmers accept buyouts.

“There is no better offer coming,” Christianne van der Wal, nitrogen minister, told the Dutch parliament on Friday.

This is literally suicidal.

We are in the beginning stages of an unprecedented global food crisis, and the Dutch government has decided that now is the time to shut down thousands of farms?

I don’t even have the words to describe how foolish this is.

Speaking of suicide, Canada has found a way to get people to stop emitting any carbon at all once their usefulness is over. Assisted suicide has become quite popular among the Canadians, and the number of people choosing that option keeps setting new records [year after year](#)...

Last year, more than 10,000 people in Canada – astonishingly that’s over three percent of all deaths there – ended their lives via euthanasia, an increase of a third on the previous year. And it’s likely to keep rising: next year, Canada is set to allow people to die exclusively for mental health reasons.

If you are feeling depressed, Canada has a solution for that.

And if you are physically disabled, Canada [has a solution for that too](#)...

Only last week, a jaw-dropping story emerged of how, five years into an infuriating battle to obtain a stairlift for her home, Canadian army veteran and Paralympian Christine Gauthier was offered an extraordinary alternative.

A Canadian official told her in 2019 that if her life was so difficult and she so ‘desperate’, the government would help her to kill herself. ‘I have a letter saying that if you’re so desperate, madam, we can offer you MAiD, medical assistance in dying,’ the paraplegic ex-army corporal testified to Canadian MPs.

“Medical assistance in dying” sounds so clinical.

But ultimately it is the greatest lockdown of all.

Because once you stop breathing, you won't be able to commit any more "climate sins".

All over the western world, authoritarianism is growing at a pace that is absolutely breathtaking.

If they can severely restrict travel and shut down farms today, what sort of tyranny will we see [in the future?](#)

Sadly, most people in the general population still do not understand what is happening.

Hopefully they will wake up before it is too late.

Stats, Africa: dec8 it's their fault, they're growing khat..

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2022-11-10/in-yemen-farmers-choose-narcotic-over-other-crops-exacerbating-climate-woes>

"It is definitely not like coffee," Garrison Courtney, spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Administration, told the Times. "It is the same drug used by young kids who go out and shoot people in Africa, Iraq and Afghanistan. It is something that gives you a heightened sense of invincibility."

<https://www.livescience.com/37948-what-is-khat-cathinone.html>

war, middle east, sanctions, government: dec8 Xi JingPing makes first visit to Riyadh in 6 years

While \$30 billion in deals will be signed between Beijing and Riyadh, something much bigger is at play which too few have come to properly appreciate.

Xi Jinping last visited the kingdom in 2016, to advance Riyadh's participation in China's newly unveiled Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). [A January 2016 policy report](#) by the Chinese government to all Arab states reads:

<https://tradingeconomics.com/united-states/imports/saudi-arabia#:~:text=United%20States%20Imports%20from%20Saudi%20Arabia%20was%20US%2413.93%20Billion,updated%20on%20December%20of%202022>

ai, tech, stats: dec8 robot can self-heal in about a minute after detecting damage, (real story)

This incredible man brought the world the detectable self healing robot



<https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2022/12/soft-robot-detects-damage-and-heals-itself>

The project builds upon an earlier stretchable sensor, developed in 2016 in Shepherd's Organic Robotics Lab. To create that sensor, researchers sent light through an optical waveguide, and a photodiode detected changes in the beam's intensity to determine when the material was deformed, [reports David Nutt](#) in Cornell University.

<https://www.wearable-technologies.com/2020/11/stretchable-sensor-provides-skin-like-sensation-to-robots-ar-vr/>

the insanity of china: if you disrespect historical figures, even on overseas social media, you will be punished severely by the Communist People's Republic of China

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CHINA / SOCIETY

China's top court releases typical cases for insulting heroes, martyrs to safeguard Constitution's authority

Published: Dec 08, 2022 10:11 PM Updated: Dec 08, 2022 10:05 PM



Flower baskets are presented as a tribute to martyrs during a commemorative event at the Chinese People's Volunteers (CPV) martyrs' cemetery in Shenyang, northeast China's Liaoning Province, Sept. 30, 2022. (Xinhua/Li Ang)

China's Supreme People's Court Thursday released 10 typical cases

concerning the protection of the rights and interests of martyrs and relevant memorial facilities. These cases include sentences for the insults and defamation of Chinese agricultural scientist Yuan Longping and Qi Fabao, the regimental commander from the PLA Xinjiang Military Command.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the promulgation of China's current Constitution. The typical cases issued by the court not only aim to protect the rights and interests of heroes and martyrs, but also to further safeguard the authority of the Constitution to promote social equity and justice.

An official of China's Supreme People's Court said that courts across the country will intensify efforts to protect the rights and interests of martyrs, punish illegal and criminal activities that infringe upon their reputations and honor, and properly handle cases filed by martyrs' families and prosecutors that infringe upon the names, portraits, reputations and honor of martyrs. Civil liabilities shall be determined according to the law for the wrongdoers.

An offender who earlier defamed Chinese agricultural scientist Yuan Longping via overseas social media published a letter in a state-owned media outlet to express a sincere apology to the late scholar and his relatives, promising never to commit such an offense again.

The offender surnamed Zhang was ordered by a local court in Tianjin on May 19 to apologize publicly to eliminate the negative impact, after Zhang published and shared nine times an insulting post about Yuan via an overseas social media platform between May 22 and 24, 2021.

Luo Changping, a former online celebrity and journalist, made a public apology on May 5 for his offensive remarks about the martyrs of the Chinese People's Volunteers (CPV) in a letter published in the Legal Daily newspaper.

Luo, who has more than 2 million followers on the Chinese social media platform Sina Weibo, posted humiliating remarks on CPVs last October when talking about the newly released movie *The Battle at Lake Changjin*.

Luo violated the right of reputation and the right of honor for martyrs by releasing nine satirizing and humiliating posts on Weibo since 2009, which have drawn more than 17 million views and comments. His posts angered many Chinese netizens who reported them to Sina Weibo.

Luo was sentenced to prison for seven months on May 5 in Sanya,

South China's Hainan Province.

The Supreme People's Court vowed to continue to promote the implementation of the policy of preferential treatment for martyrs, ensure that martyrs' families can enjoy pensions in accordance with laws and regulations, and enjoy better treatment in education, employment, housing and medical care.

At the same time, the country's legislation will also protect the martyrs' memorial facilities from infringement, and will punish the occupation and destruction of land and facilities within relevant areas.

The official from the Supreme Court noted that those who break the law will be liable for different civil and criminal liabilities or administrative penalties, depending on the severity of the act.

Global Times

globaltimesdotcn/page/202212/1281458dotshtml

<https://perma.cc/MY5S-7BPU>

stats, china, history, planet: dec8 Yuan Longping's discovery of hybrid rice in 1966 is said to have directly fed an extra 100 million Chinese people each year

Yuan's success inspired hybrid rice production in India, Vietnam and the Philippines. When Japanese geneticist Hiroshi Ikehashi identified a gene that promotes fertility in hybrids in the mid-1980s, Yuan was able to cross diverse plant strains. As a result, rice yields continued to rise when those of hybrid maize and wheat had plateaued. In 1999, it was estimated that the production increases brought about by hybrid rice fed an additional 100 million Chinese people each year ([D. Normile *Science* 283, 313; 1999](#)).

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-01732-2>

ensorship, government, stats, media: dec8 mutiny within the ranks: colonel alerts public to military's new policy of alerting law enforcement to domestic, non-terrorist, social media posts that could be constued as offensive, or contrary to popular opinion. This seems to be in line with recent announcements that conspiracy theorists will be watched because of the growing domestic terror threat

foxnewsdotcom/media/high-ranking-military-official-called-resign-targeting-mom-upset-pansexuality-posters-school

media, history: dec8 histories great women from the 1800's

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amelia_Edwards

markets, government: dec8 [MSRP \$104,070]:\$1,768 a Month, with \$10,407 Down, 5% APR, on a Ford Pickup

<https://wolfstreet.com/2022/12/05/1768-a-month-with-10407-down-5-apr-on-a-ford-pickup-update-on-q3-new-vehicle-finance/>

PRICING SUMMARY

BASE MSRP ^{S1}	\$96,095
OPTIONS ^{S4}	+ \$6,180
ACCESSORIES ^{S8}	+ \$0
DESTINATION CHARGES ^{S17}	+ \$1,795
TOTAL MSRP ^{S16}	= \$104,070
ESTIMATED NET PRICE ^{S5}	= \$104,070

MONTHLY PAYMENT ^{S6}	\$1,768
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Finance based on \$10,407 down payment,
60 month term and 5% APR, \$0 trade-in-value

Censorship, media, government: Dec8 Devout Christian, TED CRUZ's Daughter STABS HERSELF...(she's 14)

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11510811/Girl-14-self-inflicted-knife-wounds-Senator-Ted-Cruzs-home.html>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hO_MkcZh-VY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gplpSfaouP8>

ai, tech: dec8 new york post: chatgpt could eliminate google and COUNTLESS JOBS--AND LITERALLY, NOT HYPERBOLE

We've trained a model called ChatGPT which interacts in a conversational way. The dialogue format makes it possible for ChatGPT to answer followup questions, admit its mistakes, challenge incorrect premises, and reject inappropriate requests. ChatGPT is a sibling model to [InstructGPT](#), which is trained to follow an instruction in a prompt and provide a detailed response.

<https://openai.com/blog/chatgpt/>

Rise of the bots: 'Scary' AI ChatGPT could eliminate Google within 2 years

<https://nypost.com/2022/12/06/scary-chatgpt-could-render-google-obsolete-in-two-years/>

war, history: dec8 649 Argentine military personnel were killed by British Soldiers in the Falklands War in summer, 1982 over a period of 74 days

This is what is written on the official argentina foreign affairs webpage

The Question of the Malvinas Islands has been, is and will remain a key issue for all Argentine nationals, as stated in the First Transitory

Provision of the Argentine Constitution: "The Argentine Nation ratifies its legitimate and imprescriptible sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime and insular areas, as they are an integral part of the national territory. The recovery of those territories and the full exercise of sovereignty over them, while respecting the lifestyle of their inhabitants and in accordance with the principles of International Law, are a permanent and unrenounceable goal of the Argentine people." HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

weord citation found in wikipedia:

Falklands War

The conflict was a major episode in the [protracted dispute](#) over the territories' [sovereignty](#). Argentina asserted (and maintains) that the islands are Argentine territory,^[4] and the Argentine government thus characterised its military action as the reclamation of its own territory. The British government regarded the action as an invasion of a territory that had been a [Crown colony](#) since 1841. Falkland Islanders, who have inhabited the islands since the early 19th century, are predominantly descendants of British settlers, and strongly [favour British sovereignty](#). Neither state officially [declared war](#), although both governments declared the islands a war zone.

it's found in citation number 4. It is a website called nationaturk, written anonymously. Immediately set off suspicions without even looking at the about page, and before I was convinced the article was written anonymously. Who would write this anonymusly, let alone post it in a citation on wikipedia. How would you even find it? And you also can't find who runs the site, either..

[English/World/America](#)/Argentina to reaffirm Sovereignty Rights over The Falkland Islands

[America](#)[Breaking News](#)[DailyEurope](#)[HotLatin America](#)[Politics](#)[World](#)

Argentina to reaffirm Sovereignty Rights over The Falkland Islands

4 **3,200** 1 minute read

The Falklands War between Argentina

and Britain in 1982

The Argentine government reaffirmed once again their inalienable sovereignty rights over the Falkland Islands, on commemorating the 179th anniversary of the occupation of that territory by British forces.

Buenos Aires / NationalTurk – The Argentine government reaffirmed once again their inalienable sovereignty rights over the Falkland Islands, on commemorating the 179th anniversary of the occupation of that territory by British forces.

The illegal colonial occupation, which dates from January 3, 1833, is currently exacerbated by the “provocative and continued disregard to international law shown by the persistent reluctance of the [United Kingdom](#) to resume negotiations” on the subject, informed the Argentina Foreign Ministry.

The Falklands War between Argentina and Britain

The Falklands War began on Friday 2 April 1982, when Argentine forces invaded and occupied the Falkland Islands and South Georgia. The British government dispatched a naval task force to engage the Argentine Navy and Air Force, and retake the islands by amphibious assault. The resulting conflict lasted 74 days and ended with the Argentine surrender on 14 June 1982, which returned the islands to British control. 649 Argentine military personnel, 255 British military personnel and three Falkland Islanders died during the conflict. It remains the most recent external conflict to be fought by the UK without any allied states and the only external Argentine war since the 1880s. Us gave political and logistical support to its little brother UK in the Falkland Islands war, though.

Whom belongs the Falklands ?

In a statement on the anniversary, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed that this illegitimacy is exacerbated by the presence of the military base established in the South Atlantic, falsely based on defence needs, as well as the constant development of unilateral illegal activities in the disputed area, which covers not only the Falklands, but also the South Georgia and South Sandwich islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

Referring to the exploration and oil prospecting and to the military exercises being carried out by the UK in the disputed area, the text stresses that they are contrary to resolutions of the UN General Assembly.

Other events that stand out in Argentina's defense history is the loss of their newly retrofitted submarine due to a malfunction in 2017, and the Russian support given to their military during the Falkans war with Britian, something that was apparently a secret according to this article:

"Despite this information, much more remains to be known about the secret involvement of both the Soviet Union and the West in the Falklands conflict. Until the release of secret information that still gathers dust in state archives, the guesswork is left to us."

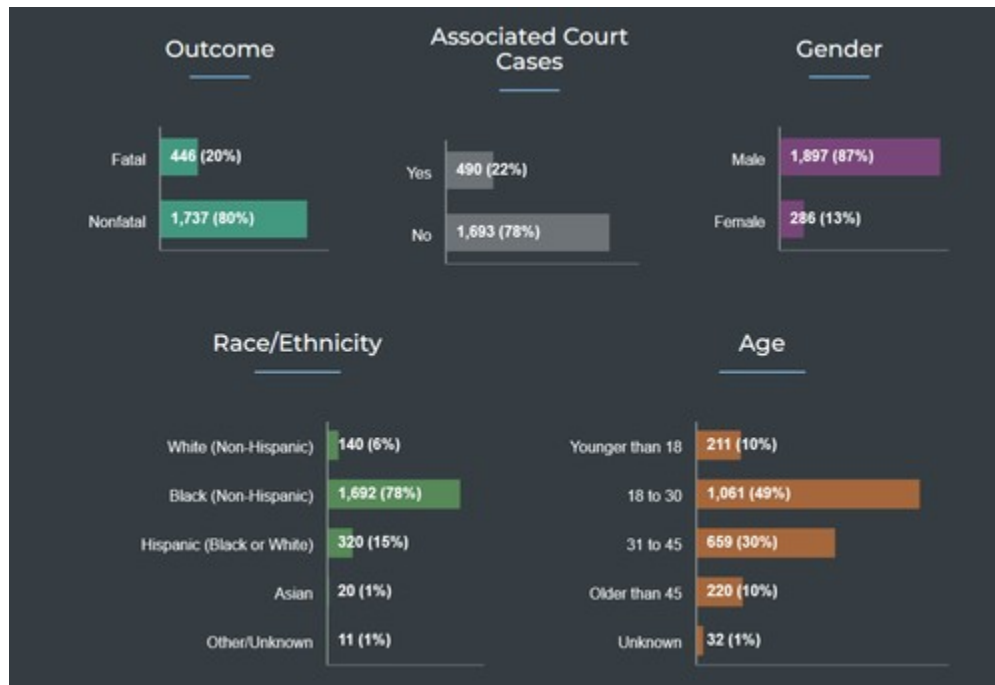
War is deception, and very serious. Enemies don't showcase their intentions to each other--not openly anyways.

**Media, journal, censorship,
government: dec8 More evidence that
black neighborhoods are being purposefully
turned into warzones. They hate them**

It's no secret Philadelphia is a dangerous city.

In 2019, the murder rate was **22.47 per 100,000** residents according to [FBI data](#), with 331 homicides that year. Fast forward three years, **and there have been 480 murders year-to-date.**

Most affected are black males between the age of 18 and 45.



According to city statistics released in September, **overall shootings have increased by 3%** over last year, while **violent crime is up 7%**. Robberies involving guns are up 60%, while rapes are down more than 25%. Property crimes are up **over 30%**. **Businesses getting hit particularly hard - with commercial burglaries up a staggering 50%**, according to [Axios Philadelphia](#). What's more, **the city's drug crisis is spiraling further out of control with a new drug called "Tranq"** - an anesthetic and pain reliever used to treat horses and cattle, and which turns people into zombies.

Crime is so out of control that the Philadelphia City Council recently approved a **10 p.m. curfew** for anyone under the age of 18 - making a temporary summertime law permanent.

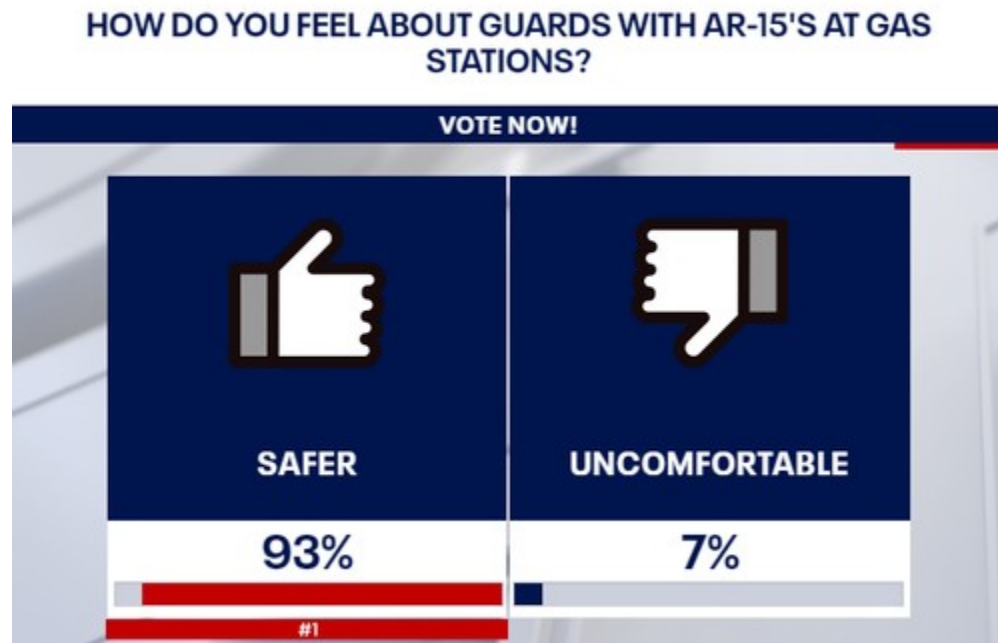
To combat the crime wave, **Philadelphia gas station owners have turned to hiring heavily armed guards.**

"They are forcing us to hire the security, high-level security, state level," said Karco gas station owner, Neil Patel, who has recruited Kevlar-clad S.I.T.E. agents packing AR-15s or shotguns. "We are tired of this nonsense; robbery, drug trafficking, hanging around, gangs," [Fox5](#) reports.

The final straw for Patel after his business was reportedly vandalized by young people who stole an ATM machine. His car has also been a casualty of crime, according to the report.

"We wear Kevlar, we are trained, my guards go to training every other week, they're proficient with [their guns] and with their taser, they know the law," said police chief Andre Boyer.

A realtime online poll on *Fox5's* website reveals that **93% say they feel safer with guards who have AR-15s at gas stations:**



When asked about residents who are concerned over the gun-toting guards, Patel said: "I listen to them, but according to some people, violent people, they carry the guns, they're not afraid of them? This is the protection for the neighborhood and the customers."

War, middle east: dec8 900 troops in sdf controlled areas in northern syria, kurdistan region

The US has about 900 troops in SDF-controlled areas of Syria, keeping the territory out of the hands of Damascus. The US paused patrols with the SDF as a result of recent Turkish airstrikes [but said they resumed this week.](#)

U.S. army creates own cogen operator through, well, to put it simply: theft. I know I sound like a naive civilian here, but that's what it is, cogeneration-by-theft.

John Kirby, spokesman for the National Security Council, told reporters Friday that, as in the past, when there are Turkish operations in northern Syria, it has had an impact on the counter-ISIS operations as SDF forces concentrate on

defending themselves in northern Syria. The U.S. said the SDF's decision to pause its missions against the Islamic State group triggered the U.S. decision to do so as well

War, Germany, holy roman empire: germany has invaded france 3 times over the past 150 years

Germany had invaded France twice in living memory, in [World War I](#) and [World War II](#), and also defeated France in the [Franco-Prussian War](#) of 1870/71

Stats, china: asian protectionism and centralized control is apparently not new

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haijin#Ming>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteen_Factories

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canton_System

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_opium_in_China#Early_history

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Century_of_humiliation

This puke is as ignorant as the fools that bred him. It's worth watching, "This is a long, but extremely informative explanation of China's "Century of Humiliation" and will leave no doubt in your mind as to why China wants a unified society and a powerful military.

Historian Carl Zha of the Silk & Steel podcast joins me to talk about China's "Century of Humiliation" at the hands of Western powers and how it connects directly to US-Chinese tensions today.

- How the US has repeatedly made treaties and agreements with China only to betray them when US interests demand;
 - The West's historical use of Hong Kong and Taiwan as hubs to destabilize and dominate over the rest of China;
 - The historical use by the West of China for cheap labor and for markets to exploit;
 - The threat China faced for lacking a strong military and a unified population;
 - The clear motivations China has for a military and political system used to protect itself from further interference and exploitation; ' ,,,,,, New Atlas, Brian Berletic . . .
- China's "Century of Humiliation" & US-Chinese Tensions Today w/Carl Zha

2 m

rt.com/news/567784-arm-taiwan-not-ukraine-hawley/

stats, war, history: dec7 cool medium page

jeff-kaye.mediumdotcom/secret-plan-revealed-cia-told-to-destroy-those-supporting-communist-germ-warfare-myth-f466dfb071be

censorship, vaccine: dec7 lose doctors license if you don't regurgitate official dovid talking point put out by CDC

Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 2098 into law in September, meaning that starting in 2023, doctors who disseminate what the state defines as "misinformation or disinformation related to the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus" can face disciplinary action by the California Medical Board, including being stripped of their licenses.

"It essentially ends your ability to combat bad ideas put out by public health because you have this looming power that over you that essentially can end your career," says Bhattacharya.

Media, stats: dec7 America 2022...

investmentwatchblogdotcom/a-north-philly-owner-says-hes-had-enough-violent-crime-at-his-gas-station-so-hes-hired-these-guys-to-protect-his-customers-and-store/

stats, tech: dec7 Short term memory problems can be improved with laser therapy

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/2022/short-term-memory-problems-can-be-improved-with-laser-therapy>

stats: un-peer reviewed research posts, Cornell U

<https://arxiv.org/>

stats, tech: dec6 3-d printed violin

<https://interestingengineering.com/innovation/3d-print-low-cost-durable-violin>

stats, censorship: dec6 Western Australian man's \$580k live savings disappears from Ubank account

<https://www.news.com.au/finance/business/banking/western-australian-mans-580k-live-savings-disappear-from-ubank-account/news-story/d4ba3f60cf0ebbdecdd1f2ed88188afd>

stats, ai, tech, censorship: dec6

Microsoft sacks journalists to replace them with robots

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/may/30/microsoft-sacks-journalists-to-replace-them-with-robots>

china, war, sanction, Russia: dec6 permalink:globaltimes in black-and-white today; the 1st day after the 1st attack INSIDE--LET ME REPEAT--INSIDE, Russia

<https://perma.cc/U5TD-JB7R>

journal, markets: dec6 hilarious. they just commit fraud right out in the open and don't get in trouble for it--massive fraud...

The biggest joke after all the oil price cap fanfare is that according to Reuters, buyers must provide documents such as invoices to shipping companies or insurers to show they stuck to the cap **but it will be essentially down to self-monitoring, with no penalties for providers of shipping services if they operated in good faith.** One can imagine how efficient self-monitoring will be when there are millions of dollars daily on the line for those who breach the rules.

zerohedgedotcom/markets/russian-oil-sanctions-send-prices-old-tankers-new-records

The European Commission has fined **Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Crédit Agricole**, and **Credit Suisse** a total of € 28 494 000 for breaching EU antitrust rules.

The four investment banks participated in a cartel through a core group of traders working in their USD SSA bonds divisions, who were in regular contact with each other. *A bond is a type of debt security that enables entities to raise cash. Bonds are issued on the primary market and then traded by financial institutions on the secondary market. On the secondary market, potential customers, such as investment and pension funds, approach the banks in order to get an independent quotation of price and quantity available of the bonds of a specific issuer.* Bonds are distinguished by currency. This particular case refers to SSA bonds issued in US dollars.

The traders, who were in direct competition, typically logged into multilateral chatrooms or bilateral chatrooms on Bloomberg terminals. They knew each other on a personal basis, thus creating a closed circle of trust. They provided each other with recurring updates on their trading activities, exchanged commercially sensitive information, coordinated on prices shown to their customers, or to the market in general and aligned their trading activities on the secondary market for these bonds. The conduct took place during a five-year period and affected the trading of US denominated SSA bonds on the secondary market in the entire EEA.

ecdot.europa.doteu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_2004

Whatever the reason, the darkness that started growing around the crimes committed by the big Wall Street banks during the Obama administration has now evolved into such a complete dark curtain that regulators are refusing to say what the crimes actually are that are being settled for huge amounts of money.

On October 7, the Federal Reserve and Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) announced consent decrees with Citigroup, the third largest bank in the country. The OCC imposed a \$400 million fine on Citigroup's federally-insured commercial bank, Citibank, and stated in its Consent Order that it had "identified unsafe or unsound practices with respect to the Bank's internal controls, including, among other things, an absence of clearly defined roles and responsibilities and noncompliance with multiple laws and regulations."

But for the first time in more than 35 years of our reading these Consent Orders against Wall Street banks, the documents from both the OCC and Federal Reserve failed to specify exactly what crimes the bank had committed. We were so stunned by a \$400 million fine for crimes that can't be put in print or shared with the public, that we

penned the headline: Citigroup Is Slapped with a \$400 Million Fine for Doing Something So Bad It Can't Be Spoken Out Loud.

Yesterday, as further proof that this is a pattern coming out of the Trump administration, the OCC did the exact same thing with JPMorgan Chase, the largest bank in the country which on September 29 admitted to its fourth and fifth criminal felony charges brought by the U.S. Department of Justice in the past six years.

Yesterday, the OCC fined JPMorgan Chase \$250 million without detailing any specific crimes it had committed. The Consent Order simply said the bank had, for several years, "maintained a weak management and control framework for its fiduciary activities and had an insufficient audit program for, and inadequate internal controls over, those activities. Among other things, the Bank had deficient risk management practices and an insufficient framework for avoiding conflicts of interest."

A Wall Street bank like JPMorgan Chase that has brazenly committed five felonies for very specific crimes, doesn't get fined \$250 million for non-specific crimes. Something very bad has once again happened at JPMorgan Chase and its federal regulators who are all rushing to get new jobs on Wall Street, or at Wall Street's outside law firms, don't want to talk about it.

Government, inflation, planet: dec6 30% of the EU's 2 trillion NextGenerationEU fund is planned to go towards 'fighting climate change'

"The palace of parliament is one of the biggest buildings in the world by space. It was built between 1983 and 1989 by order of the dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu. To create it historical buildings containing 40,000 flats and a dozen churches were destroyed. The building costs were around 40 % of the gross national income of the country."

<https://the-passenger.de/2021/09/29/palatul-parlamentului-bucuresti/>

...He was executed on a public display on that very same year. This is what the building looks like 20 years later...



The Palace of the Parliament is the heaviest building in the world, weighing about 4,098,500,000 kilograms (9.04 billion pounds; 4.10 million tonnes), also being the second largest administrative building in the world.^[3] (The [Great Pyramid of Giza](#) is about 50% heavier.)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palace_of_the_Parliament

The trial of Nicolae and Elena Ceaușescu was held on 25 December 1989 by an Exceptional Military Tribunal, a [drumhead court-martial](#) created at the request of a newly formed group called the [National Salvation Front](#). Its outcome was pre-determined, and it resulted in [guilty verdicts](#) and [death sentences](#) for former [Romanian President](#) and [Romanian Communist Party General Secretary](#), [Nicolae Ceaușescu](#), and his wife, [Elena Ceaușescu](#).^[1]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_and_execution_of_Nicolae_and_Elena_Ceau%C8%99escu

**journal, censorship, government:
dec5 (The yolo generation)start writing about
spirituality. start slow; it'll come to you. The
world is at a crucible moment, and decency is
truly eroding (something that also tends to
happen during war)**

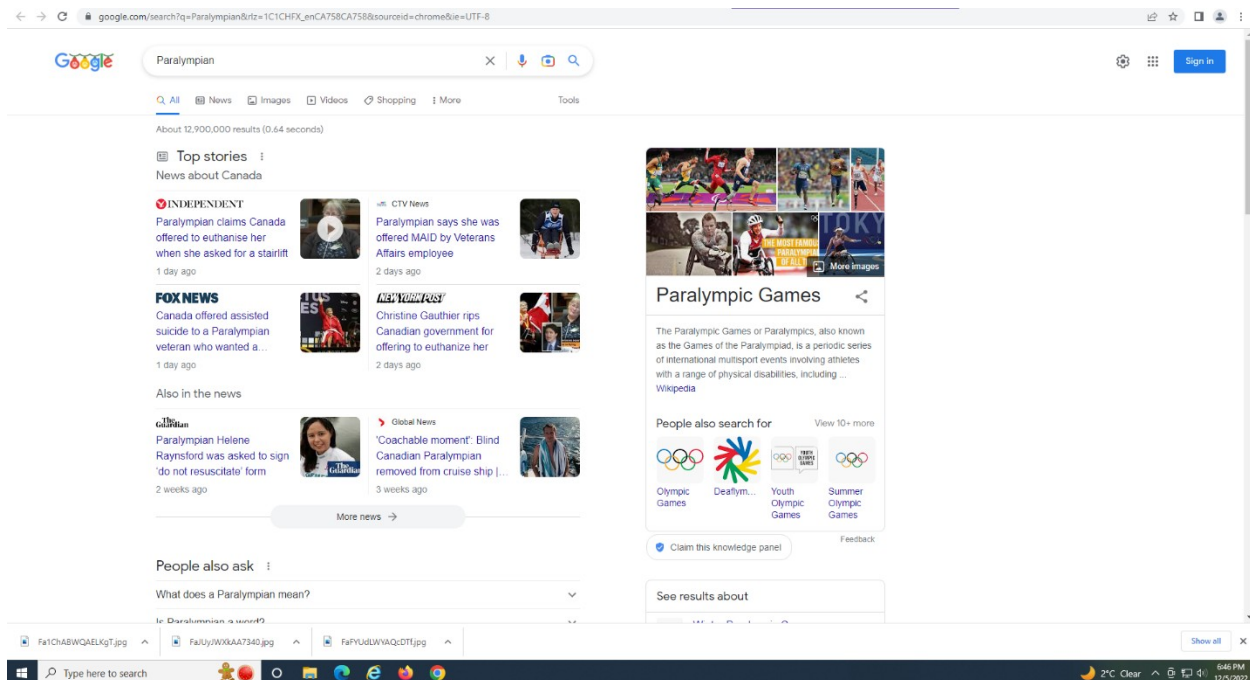
<div data-bbox="212 205 248 243">←</div> <div data-bbox="370 197 626 256">DAILY CALLER</div> <div data-bbox="751 205 789 243">↗</div> <h2 data-bbox="212 300 760 506">Euthanasia Is Now A Leading Cause Of Death In Canada, And Ethicists Are Freaking Out</h2> <p data-bbox="212 520 393 548">Dylan Housman</p> <p data-bbox="212 600 779 680">Euthanasia is now a leading cause of death in Canada only a few years after being legalized.</p> <p data-bbox="212 737 768 957">Euthanasia became a legal option for Canadians 18 years and older in 2016, who had to prove suffering from severe pain and have a reasonably foreseeable death, as well as two doctors signing off on the decision.</p>	<p data-bbox="833 212 1406 480">Now, any adult with a serious disease or a mental health reason can seek euthanasia, according to the AP. The policy is also creeping forward to encompass the mentally ill, poor, and soon children, with some experts saying the law is going too far.</p> <p data-bbox="833 537 1401 806">“[The law is] probably the biggest existential threat to disabled people since the Nazis’ program in Germany in the 1930s,” Tim Stainton, director of the Canadian Institute for Inclusion and Citizenship at the University of British Columbia, told the AP.</p> <p data-bbox="833 863 1398 989">Pope Francis also decried the idea that some patients would be “administered death” rather than affection. (RELATED: Former Columbia</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1022 779 1335">Other countries where euthanasia is legal have certain safeguards, such as prohibiting doctors from mentioning it as a treatment option for patients or requiring them to exhaust all other treatment options before turning to euthanasia as a last resort. Canada has no such guardrails, according to AP.</p> <p data-bbox="212 1392 760 1612">The broad eligibility has led to more than 10,000 Canadians being euthanized in the most recent year for which data is available, making it the sixth leading cause of death in the country, the AP reported.</p> <p data-bbox="212 1669 776 1837">Some disabled Canadians are choosing to be euthanized not because of their disability, but because of mounting medical debts, the AP found.</p>	<p data-bbox="833 1041 1401 1499">Sean Tagert, a 41-year-old man suffering from ALS, opted for euthanasia in 2019 in part because he couldn’t keep up with high costs to allow him to continue living at home with caretakers, according to AP. Roger Foley, a man hospitalized in Ontario with a degenerative brain disease, was told by one staffer that it would cost \$1,500 per day to keep him alive in the hospital before mentioning euthanasia, the outlet reported.</p> <p data-bbox="833 1556 1401 1824">The United Nations has raised concerns with Canada’s government about the euthanasia policy. Independent experts continue to call for more restrictions. But the government is pushing ahead, insisting the aim is to help Canadians “die with dignity” if they so choose.</p>

CANADA · Published August 22, 2022 11:38am EDT

Canadian soldier suffering with PTSD offered euthanasia by Veterans Affairs

Medical assistance in dying, or euthanasia,
was legalized in Canada in 2016

By **Michael Lee** | **Fox News**



War, stats: dec5 Jens Stoltenberg is a Norwegian politician. his tenure coincided with the largest increase in NATO defense spending since the Cold War.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jens_Stoltenberg

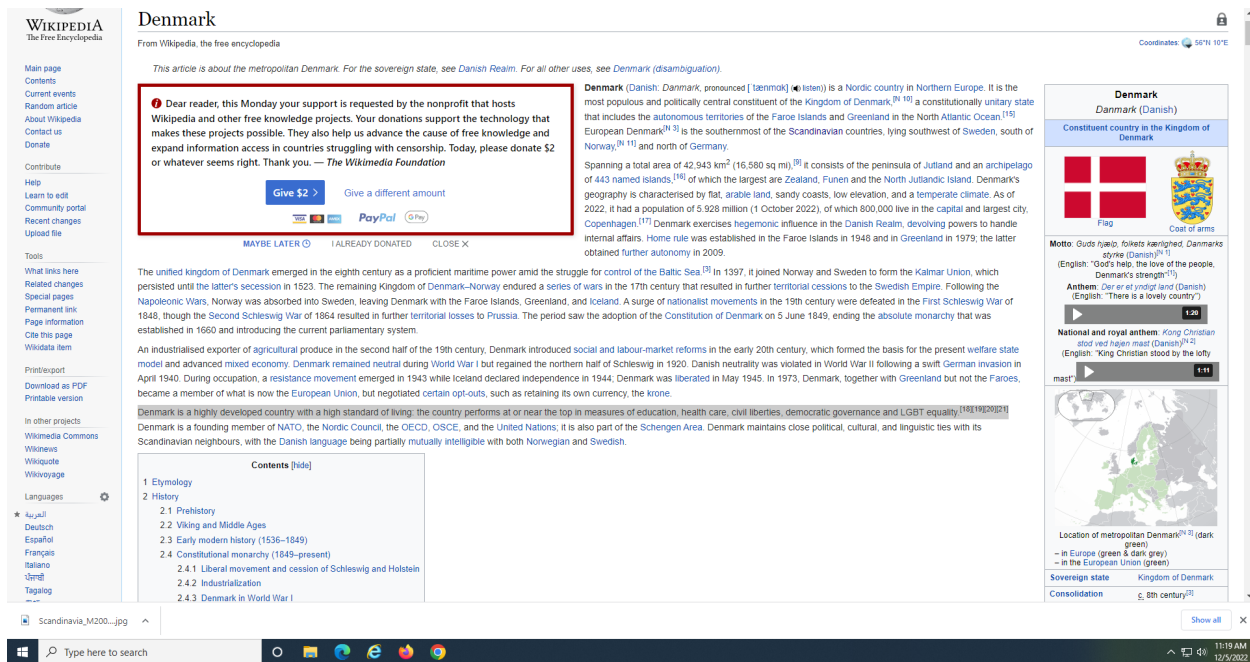
Germany, war dec5 german state broadcast, info on chancellor

The office of Chancellor has a long history, stemming back to the [Holy Roman Empire](#), when the office of German [archchancellor](#) was usually held by [archbishops of Mainz](#).
rmxdotnews/germany/norway-and-germany-ask-nato-to-protect-underwater-gas-pipelines/

<https://www.dw.com/en/top-stories/s-9097>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chancellor_of_Germany

stats, censorship: dec5 Aren't civil liberties and LGTQXB rights the same thing?



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denmark>

stats, war, middle east: dec5 read later:

<https://www.counterextremism.com/extremists/mohammad-pakpour> has all these slideshows.

History, china: dec5 christians and chinese fighting, boxer rebellion, opium wars

A major cause of discontent in north China was missionary activity. The [Treaty of Tientsin](#) (Tianjin) and the [Convention of Peking](#), signed in 1860 after the [Second Opium War](#), had granted foreign missionaries the freedom to preach anywhere in China and to buy land on which to build churches.^[19] On 1 November 1897, a band of armed men who were perhaps members of the [Big Swords Society](#) stormed the residence of a German missionary from the [Society of the Divine Word](#) and killed two priests. This attack is known as the [Juye Incident](#). When [Kaiser Wilhelm II](#) received news of these murders, he dispatched the [German East Asia Squadron](#) to occupy [Jiaozhou Bay](#) on the southern coast of the Shandong peninsula.^[20]

History, china, war: Mukden Incident (pretext for invasion of manchuria, (sept181931)



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_invasion_of_Manchuria

On September 18, 1931, Lieutenant Suemori Kawamoto of the Independent Garrison Unit of the 29th Japanese Infantry Regiment (独立守備隊) detonated a small quantity of dynamite^[4] close to a railway line owned by Japan's [South Manchuria Railway](#) near Mukden (now [Shenyang](#)).^[5] The explosion was so weak that it failed to destroy the track, and a train passed over it minutes later. The [Imperial Japanese Army](#) accused Chinese dissidents of the act and responded with a full invasion that led to the occupation of [Manchuria](#), in which Japan established its [puppet state](#) of [Manchukuo](#) six months later. The deception was exposed by the [Lytton Report](#) of 1932, leading Japan to diplomatic isolation and its March 1933 withdrawal from the [League of Nations](#).^[6]

also known as the Liutiao Lake Incident

stats, iran, war, middle east: dec4 Iranian intervention in Iraq (2014-present)

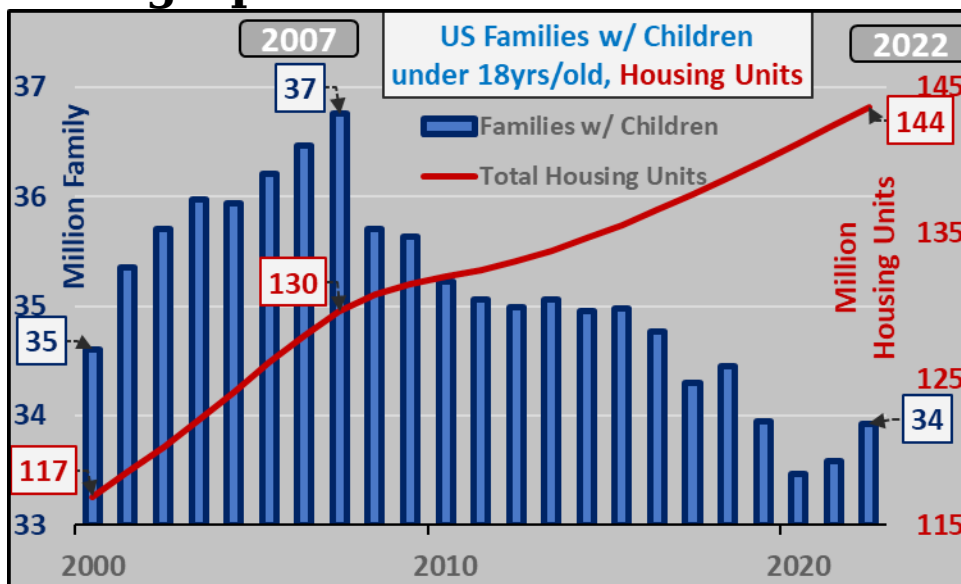
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iranian_intervention_in_Iraq_\(2014%E2%80%93present\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iranian_intervention_in_Iraq_(2014%E2%80%93present))

stats: cool website:blacklistednews.com

media, government: Boy, 10, 'shot mother dead after she refused to buy him a virtual reality headset' on Amazon

<https://news.sky.com/story/boy-10-shot-mother-dead-after-she-refused-to-buy-him-a-virtual-reality-headset-12759406>

stats, government, housing: dec4 cool demographics chart beside total housing units



Islam, media: why islam should be banned.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-63838213>

media, censorship, government: dec4 **disabled parolympian says offered medicially assisted suicide by social worker after complaining that she didn't have a stair lift**

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11497589/Paraplegic-Canadian-veteran-says-government-caseworker-offered-euthanasia.html>

history, government: dec3 **perfect, quick ACTUAL breakdown of the british east india company's entrance into india, complete with full timeline and embedded links**

Company rule in India

The company's victory under [Robert Clive](#) in the 1757 Battle of Plassey and another victory in the 1764 [Battle of Buxar](#) (in Bihar), consolidated the company's power, and forced emperor [Shah Alam II](#) to appoint it the *diwan*, or revenue collector, of [Bengal](#), Bihar, and [Orissa](#). The Company thus became the de facto ruler of large areas of the [lower Gangetic plain](#) by 1773. It also proceeded by degrees to expand its dominions around Bombay and Madras. The [Anglo-Mysore Wars](#) (1766–1799) and the [Anglo-Maratha Wars](#) (1772–1818) left it in control of large areas of India south of the [Sutlej River](#). With the defeat of the [Marathas](#), no native power represented a threat for the Company any longer.^[1]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Company_rule_in_India

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj

stats, war, Erdogan, middle east: dec3 **2019 Turkish offensive into north-eastern Syria**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019_Turkish_offensive_into_north-eastern_Syria

middle east, Erdogan, war: dec3(OCT152019)Russia has said Turkey's invasion of north-eastern Syria is unacceptable

Russia has said Turkey's invasion of north-eastern Syria is unacceptable and was not agreed with Moscow in advance. Turkey has launched an assault into Syria to claim territory held by Kurdish groups after US troops withdrew from the area. Russia in response brokered a deal between the Kurds and the government in Damascus for the Syrian army to move into the territory.

"We always called for restraint from Turkey, we always believed that some kind of military operation in Syria was unacceptable," Alexander Lavrentiev, President Vladimir Putin's special envoy for Syria, told reporters.

Mr Lavrentiev also said that "real time" negotiations were taking place between the Turkish and Syrian governments amid the threat of armed conflict between the two states' militaries.

"A dialogue between Turkey and Syria is taking place, it is taking place continuously," he said, in remarks published by state-run news agencies. "Negotiations are proceeding in real time between the defence and foreign ministries and special services."

Russia, which backs Syrian president Bashar al-Assad, is the most powerful foreign military in the more than eight-year-long civil war in Syria.

Erdogan, war, journal: dec3 they kidnapped the general of turkey and tried to legitimately stage a coup

"Hulusi Akar (born 12 March 1952) is the current [Turkish](#) minister of defense and a former four-star [Turkish Armed Forces general](#) who served as the 29th [chief of the Turkish General Staff](#).^[2] Akar also served as a brigade commander in various [NATO](#) engagements including the [International Security Assistance Force](#) against the [Taliban insurgency](#), [Operation Deliberate](#)

Force during the **Bosnian War**, the **Kosovo Force** during the **Kosovo War**, as well as overseeing much of the **Turkish involvement in the Syrian Civil War**.^[5]^[4]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hulusi_Akar

<https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/2016/07/16/turkeys-chief-of-staff-hulusi-akar-rescued-from-pro-coup-soldiers>

After decades of negotiations for entry into the EU, all talks officially came to a standstill on February 20th, 2019.

"**Turkey** is negotiating its accession to the **European Union** (EU) as a member state, following its application to become a full member of the **European Economic Community** (EEC), the predecessor of the EU, on 14 April 1987.^[2]

After the ten founding members in 1949, Turkey became one of the first new members (**the 13th member**) of the **Council of Europe** in 1950.^[3]^[4] The country became an **associate member** of the **European Economic Community** (EEC) in 1963 and was an **associate member** of the **Western European Union** from 1992 to its end in 2011. Turkey signed a **Customs Union agreement** with the EU in 1995 and was officially recognised as a candidate for full membership on 12 December 1999, at the **Helsinki** summit of the **European Council**.

Negotiations for full membership were started on 3 October 2005.^[5] Progress was slow: out of the 35 chapters necessary to complete the accession process, only 16 had been opened and one had been closed by May 2016.^[6] The early 2016 **refugee** deal between Turkey and the European Union was intended to accelerate negotiations after previous stagnation and allow visa-free travel through Europe for Turks.^[7]

Since 2016, accession negotiations have stalled.^[8] The EU has accused and criticized Turkey for human rights violations and deficits in **rule of law**.^[9] In 2017, EU officials expressed that planned Turkish policies violate the **Copenhagen criteria** of eligibility for an EU membership.^[10] On 26 June 2018, the EU's **General Affairs Council** stated that "Turkey has been moving further away from the European Union.

On 20 February 2019, a European parliament committee voted to suspend the accession talks, sparking criticism from the government of Turkey.^[11]^[12]

^[13] Turkey's accession negotiations have therefore effectively come to a standstill and no further chapters can be considered for opening or closing and no further work towards the modernisation of the **EU-Turkey Customs Union** is foreseen."^[14]^[15]^[16]^[17]^[18]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accession_of_Turkey_to_the_European_Union

stats, government: dec3 The Top 100 Most Valuable Brands In 2022 (i call it the world in a nutshell

The Top 100 Most Most Valuable Brands 2022

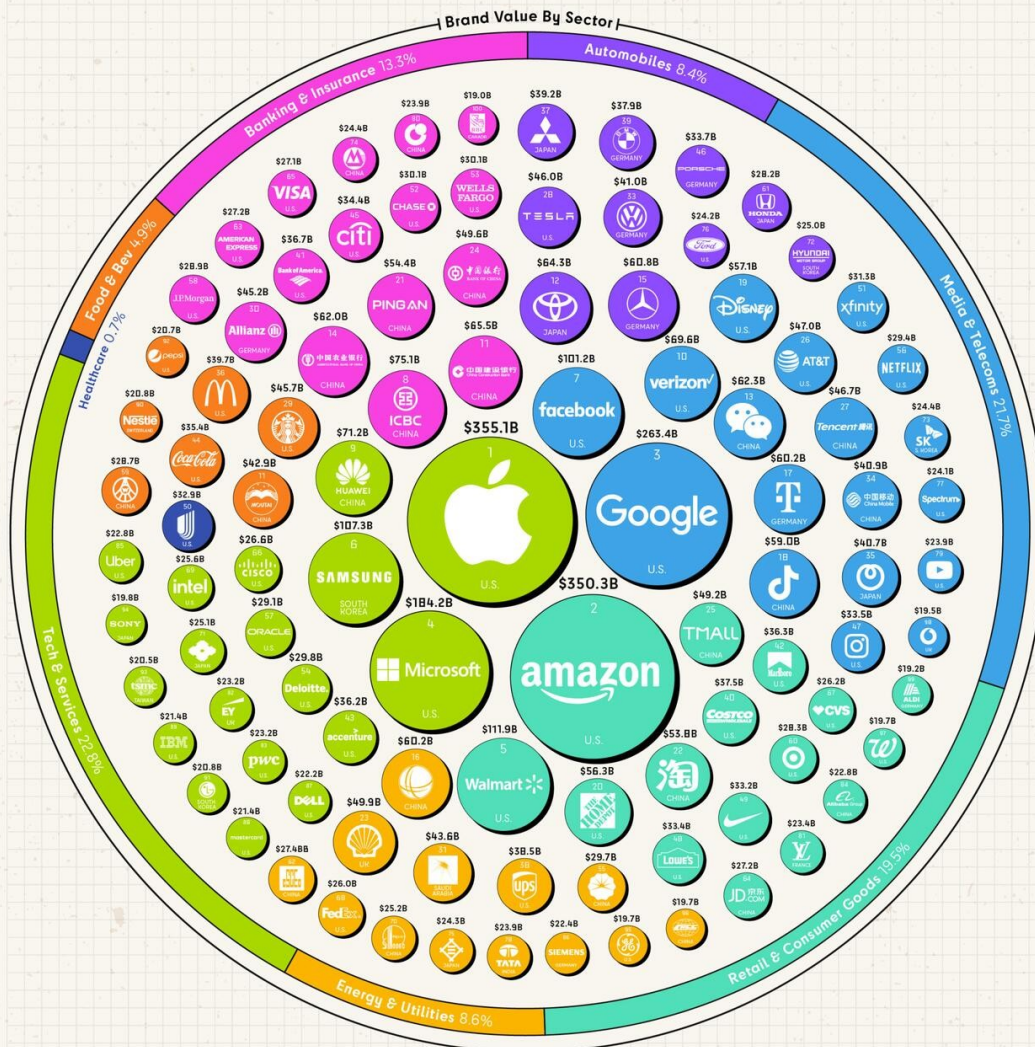
When leveraged well, a strong brand has the ability to generate immense value over a long period of time—but how do we measure a brand's value?

This annual Global 500 Report from Brand Finance connects brands to the bottom line.

HOW TO READ THIS

10
COMPANY

- GLOBAL RANK
- CIRCLE SIZE BASED ON BRAND VALUE
- MARKET OF ORIGIN



More than 50% of the U.S. population has an iPhone.

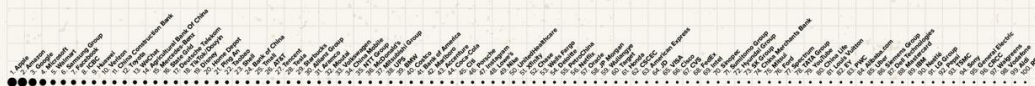
Source: Statista



Despite a challenging year filled with supply chain issues and labor shortages, Amazon's brand value grew by 38% since last year's ranking.



Over the past year, TikTok has tripled in brand value, making it the fastest-growing brand on the list.



COLLABORATORS RESEARCH + WRITING Carmen Ang | ART DIRECTION + DESIGN Pernia Jamshed + Amy Realey

SOURCE Brand Finance

War, stats, middle east: starting to get the syria thing more. read later

[Rojava](#) is a major theater in the war against the Islamic State in Syria. During the Syrian Civil war, Kurdish forces led by the [People's Protection Units](#) (YPG) took control of Northern Syria and launched campaigns to take control of the Islamist-controlled areas. The [Syrian Democratic Forces](#) went on to take substantial territory from the Islamic State and played a major role in the [liberation of Raqqa](#) and the [battle for Deir Ezzor](#), ending Islamic State rule in Syria.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manbij_offensive

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Combined_Joint_Task_Force_%E2%80%93_Operation_Inherent_Resolve

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_against_the_Islamic_State#Establishment_of_Combined_Joint_Task_Force_%E2%80%93_Operation_Inherent_Resolve_\(CJTF-OIR\)_in_October_2014](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_against_the_Islamic_State#Establishment_of_Combined_Joint_Task_Force_%E2%80%93_Operation_Inherent_Resolve_(CJTF-OIR)_in_October_2014)

Turkish involvement in the Syrian civil war

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish_involvement_in_the_Syrian_civil_war

war, sanctions, middle east, energy: dec2 (2013) al-Hasakah accounts for half of all Syrian oil production (370000bpd)

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2013/02/syria-oil-crisis.html#ixzz7mLFcXO28>

The Rmeilan, Suwayda and Karatchok oil fields are all part of al-Hasakah province. Thousands of workers, mostly non-natives of the region, work in these fields. The province is home to a training and qualifying center for technical workers, an oil and gas institute and a vocational high school for oil.

Read more: <https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2013/02/syria-oil-crisis.html#ixzz7mLGCxBHG>

Energy, war, sanctions, stats: Dec2first time since February that gas prices cost less than

\$3.50 per gallon, below the \$3.54 average on Feb. 24, 2022

<https://www.axios.com/2022/12/01/gas-prices-aaa-russia-ukraine>

Erdogan, war, middle east: U.S. Senate committee approves Turkey sanctions bill, DECEMBER 11, 2019

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-usa-sanctions/u-s-senate-committee-approves-turkey-sanctions-bill-idUSKBN1YF24P>

dec2 Turkey's fourth ground incursion into Northern Syria since 2016

he threatens Turkey's fourth ground incursion into Northern Syria since 2016 – a threat he has made without follow through since May 2022. The U.S. force presence in Northeastern Syria has historically forced Turkey's hand to tread lightly along the border. However, just last week, a Turkish airstrike landed within 300 meters of American positions, north of Hasakah. Luckily, no American troops were present at the time.

Censorship, government: Walker County man convicted of voter fraud, sentenced to 25 years, DA says

WALKER COUNTY, Ga. — A 62-year-old Walker County man is facing 25 years in prison after being convicted of voter fraud, according to District Attorney Chris Arnt.

The DA says William Chase filled out another Walker County resident's absentee ballot in the January 2021 runoff election after it was sent to a PO box at an old address by mistake.

When the husband of the original owner of the ballot got his and she did not, the DA says she called the Walker County Elections Office to inquire about it.

The Elections Office found out that it has already been accepted, but not yet counted, and that it appeared to have her signature, the DA says.

The resident went to the Elections Office and pointed out that it was not her signature.

The DA says the Elections Office cancelled the forged ballot and had a new ballot sent to the resident's current address.

The Elections Office then requested the Secretary of State Office investigate the forged ballot.

The DA says they learned that Chase was the current owner of the PO box, but he had already submitted a ballot for the election.

The DA says they matched fingerprints on the forged ballot with Chase's.

The DA says Chase is convicted of forgery in the first degree, illegal acts regarding election documents, unlawful acts regarding elector's vote, and repeat voting in same election.

Chase is sentenced to 25 years, with the first 15 years to be served in the Georgia Department of Corrections without the possibility of parole, the DA says.

The DA says Chase is no stranger to fraud and forgery as he has several felony convictions including: bankruptcy fraud, theft by shoplifting, forgery in the first degree, stealing public documents, and financial identity fraud.

<https://newschannel9.com/news/local/walker-county-man-convicted-of-voter-fraud-sentenced-to-25-years-da-says>

middle east, government, sanctions, war: dec1 India and Pakistan joined the SCO on 9 June 2017, a Eurasian political, economic and security organization

covering approximately 60% of the area of Eurasia, 40% of the world population, and more than 30% of global GDP

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanghai_Cooperation_Organisation

stats, energy: dec1 read later: how electric motors work

stats, energy, sanctions, journal: dec1 long, lol



**Censorship, government, vaccine: dec1
how law firms work; i've seen it personally with drug dealers, where the dealer literally had his "lawyer on speedial", or in this case, was facebook friends and constantly called and personally messaged the guy. he was like one of his close friends. same for mr. ****, a powerful lawyer in **** with a 5 million dollar home. he finds information out about witnesses and police, information that nobody should be able to find, then uses it against them to bring their**

credibility into question. if they lie, theyre gone from the equation

“Finally, a word must be said about the role of lawyers in this fifty-year history of deceiving smokers, potential smokers, and the American public about the hazards of smoking and second hand smoke, and the addictiveness of nicotine. At every stage, lawyers played an absolutely central role in the creation and perpetuation of the Enterprise and the implementation of its fraudulent schemes. They devised and coordinated both national and international strategy; they directed scientists as to what research they should and should not undertake; they vetted scientific research papers and reports as well as public relations materials to ensure that the interests of the Enterprise would be protected; they identified ‘friendly’ scientific witnesses, subsidized them with grants from the Center for Tobacco Research and the Center for Indoor Air Research, paid them enormous fees, and often hid the relationship between those witnesses and the industry; and they devised and carried out document destruction policies and took shelter behind baseless assertions of the attorney client privilege.”

Stats, energy, Middle east, war, sanctions, Erdogan, iran: dec1 45% of Iraq's electricity is generated by natural gas imported from Iran

<https://english.news.cn/20221201/c8106866d8a24b17bc61a08ff8d80062/c.html>

media, government: dec1 Soldier charged with stealing machine gun parts, grenade

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-army/2022/11/29/soldier-charged-with-stealing-machine-gun-parts-grenade-launcher/>

war, history, Russia, stats: dec1 ukrainian holocaust, 1932-1933

<https://web.archive.org/web/20170909103902/http://www.ukemonde.com/genocide/margolisholocaust.html>

Erdogan, middle east: dec1 boycott-turkey.net, read more

Censorship: dec1 "Freedom of expression in Saudi Arabia has, much beyond having the freedom to express what one thinks, regressed to the extent of having to say what one does not believe. In other words, you cannot say what you think. Nothing will happen to you anywhere else, but here, you will be forced to say what you do not believe. You have to speak against Qatar and approve the legitimacy of the blockade. Despite all the violations of human rights in Yemen, you have to praise the coalition's operations there. If you keep silent, then you are the enemy."

yenisafakdotcom/en/columns/yasin-aktay/saudis-embargo-on-turkish-goods-backfires-as-muslims-boycott-french-products-2047647

markets, stats, government: Top Citi Exec Marvels That An Entire Generation Of Bankers Only Knows Cheap Money

BY TYLER DURDEN

THURSDAY, DEC 01, 2022 - 06:45 AM

A top Citigroup banker said it was “fascinating” that some of the Wall Street firm’s “rising stars” had spent their whole careers in an era of cheap money.

According to Bloomberg, Alison Harding-Jones, vice chair of corporate and investment and head of M&A in EMEA at Citigroup, said **rising rates were helping create an environment where more junior bankers “will learn a lot.”**

“It is absolutely fascinating to me that I have people who come to me who are starting to think about being made a managing director in an investment bank who started in this business in 2010 or 2011, and so they’ve never really seen an environment where money hasn’t essentially been free or very, very cheap,” Harding-Jones said at the Financial Times Global Banking Summit on Tuesday.

“We’ve seen this pandemic, which has inflated this bubble, which has driven this incredible amount of activity, and they’ve kind of thought ‘Well, that’s normal,” she said.

“That clearly isn’t normal and I think all the old heads on this call and all of my old-headed colleagues, we are looking at this and thinking this is going to be an environment where you will learn a lot.”

As Bloomberg notes, her comments were echoed by Clare Woodman, Morgan Stanley’s head of Europe, the Middle East and Africa, who told the conference that banks were faced with an outlook that hadn’t been seen “in the last half a century.”

Government, Africa: dec1 (I HAVE TO SAVE THE COMMENTS; i HAVE TO..)Re: it's caused the rand to COLLAPSE intraday!!! IVE NEVR LAUGHED SO HARD IN MY LIFE.....'FARMGATE'!!!!ASHAHAHAHA

**AND THAT PICTURE.....OHOHOAHAHAHAHAH
OHOHOAHHAHAHA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

NoDebt

15 minutes ago

A corrupt, black, African politician. There's something you don't see every day.

play_arrow11play_arrow

A shaped recovery

PREMIUM

13 minutes ago

where do you find cushions that big these days?

play_arrow2play_arrow

S.Parker

1 minute ago

When did the fake sign language guy become the president?

play_arrowplay_arrow

spiff

11 minutes ago

Not unless you live in Africa.

play_arrowplay_arrow

mojo_jojo

18 minutes ago

\$580K.

Chimp change.

play_arrow8play_arrow

Aspergers or Sociopath

11 minutes ago

Should have had his son smoke some crack and then handle the cash. Amateur.

play_arrow3play_arrow

gatorengineer

7 minutes ago

or had a good druish bitcoin launderer.

play_arrowplay_arrow

ponyboy99

10 minutes ago

When the Dutch settled SA it was a vast and arid place with just a handful of natives living there. 99.9% of the Africans living there now are immigrants from other countries. Finding a native SA in Capetown would be like finding a Iroquois in Martha's Vineyard. As usual, history has been perverted and twisted to fit the narrative against anyone productive and hard working. F em

play_arrow7play_arrow

rete

13 minutes ago

*Ramaphosa, who has advanced himself as an 'anti-corruption' and reformist president, has vehemently denied wrongdoing in the scandal coming to be known as "**Farmgate**"*

Sounds a bit like this

*Zelensky, who has advanced himself as an 'anti-corruption' and reformist president, has vehemently denied wrongdoing in the scandal coming to be known as "**Pandora Papers**",*

play_arrow6play_arrow

Grumpy Old Objectivist

7 minutes ago

It may not be Wakanda Forever, but it sure as **** is Wakanda Again

play_arrow5play_arrow

Sam Adam's Ghost

5 minutes ago

Great moniker!

play_arrowplay_arrow

Krink26

10 minutes ago

Blame whitey

play_arrow5play_arrow

Z Freedom

18 minutes ago

Another corrupt politician...Imagine my surprise.

play_arrow5play_arrow

you_are_cleared_hot

10 minutes ago

Nancy Pelosi: "crumbs..."

play_arrow3play_arrow

August

4 minutes ago

Africans can be very entertaining in their child-like simplicity.

Too bad they are also gifted with the ultra-violence gene.

play_arrow1play_arrow

The_Way

5 minutes ago

Check the sofa's at the white house. Biden must have billions of \$ stuffed everywhere after all the loot he has stolen.

play_arrow4play_arrow

..

4 minutes ago
(Edited)

.

play_arrow1play_arrow

ThomasJefferson69

15 minutes ago

I can't stuff money in my own sofa? What's the world coming to, it's just so racist.

play_arrow4play_arrow

Cautiously Pessimistic

6 minutes ago

He just got lucky in the markets like the Pelosi's and the Clinton's.

play_arrow3play_arrow

Sam Adam's Ghost

4 minutes ago

African Buffalo futures.

play_arrow1play_arrow

fxrxexexdxoxmx3

PREMIUM

7 minutes ago

He spent years working hard for the people and saved some cash.

What's the problem?

Sounds like a Pelosi or a McConnell.

play_arrow3play_arrow

Sam Adam's Ghost

13 minutes ago

BLM should fly over to protest!

play_arrow4play_arrow

NoDebt

13 minutes ago

The timing of the crisis couldn't be worse given long-awaited economic reforms had only just begun to take shape and improve the country's outlook.

Context? Is this the "reform" where the government just takes land from white farmers and gives it to their cronies while calling it "justice"?

play_arrow3play_arrow

Im Back

11 minutes ago

Joggers gotta jog, no matter where they are!

play_arrow2play_arrow

gatorengineer

14 minutes ago

No Doubt emboldened by Wakanda Forever.

play_arrow2play_arrow

HRH of Aquitaine 2.0

17 minutes ago

They don't sell safes in SA?

play_arrow2play_arrow

gatorengineer

13 minutes ago

the combinations have numbers on them and we all know maff is rayczist

play_arrow3play_arrow

Joe Davola

12 minutes ago

And no crack head kids to hodl it for them?

play_arrowplay_arrow

3.7.77

18 minutes ago

and all i've ever found is loose change in a couch...

play_arrow2play_arrow

Joe Davola

18 minutes ago

\$580,000, that's all - c'mon man!

play_arrow2play_arrow

Argenta

36 seconds ago

South Africa slouches toward Liberia...

play_arrow1play_arrow

maniac_nv

2 minutes ago

But muh Africa is a black utopia where everyone is honest and at peace!!!

play_arrow1play_arrow

tested-positive

3 minutes ago

When THEY attain power, no matter where all over the world, the result is the same.

THIS result.

NO exceptions.

None.

play_arrow1play_arrow

Yancey Ward

3 minutes ago

Hey, the money was in that sofa when he bought it.

play_arrow1play_arrow

Leewardhedge

5 minutes ago

Let the man enjoy his retirement in Zurich

play_arrow1play_arrow

Ms. Yulia Boiko

5 minutes ago

Assassinate Putin 2023

play_arrow1play_arrow1

Goody Two Shoes

58 seconds ago

That is a dumb plan. If you think that would make things better for you, you are a dumb person.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Sam Adam's Ghost

6 minutes ago

Name one country in Africa as prosperous as America. Why is that?

play_arrow1play_arrow

Resident Creeper

8 minutes ago

(Edited)

\$4m dollar theft.

\$580k found in a sofa.

Seems this guy might have gone to the Joe Biden School of 10%. and improved it.

play_arrow1play_arrow

tested-positive

1 minute ago

(Edited)

"I swear I didn't know about that money.

I purchased that used sofa from a traveling furniture show that passed through here 9 months ago."

play_arrowplay_arrow

dwhit

2 minutes ago

This is a new thing. This has never happened before. Finding big chunks of CASH stuffed in sofas, mattresses, freezers by politicians. The big reset is coming.

play_arrowplay_arrow

jimfcarroll

9 minutes ago

\$580K? Wow. African politicians come cheap.

play_arrowplay_arrow

rete

9 minutes ago

remove
link

There's a penny underneath that couch

~Peter Griffin

If the sofa was stuffed with US dollars, the sofa would become bigger because of inflation.

Show original message

**it's caused the rand to COLLAPSE intraday!!!
IVE NEVR LAUGHED SO HARD IN MY
LIFE.....'FARMGATE'!!!!ASHAHAHAHA
AND THAT PICTURE.....OHOHOAHAHAHAHAH
OHOHOAHHAHAHA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

South Africa President Ramaphosa's Resignation Believed Imminent Over 'Farmgate' Scandal

BY TYLER DURDEN

THURSDAY, DEC 01, 2022 - 10:25 AM

South Africa is facing deep political turmoil and corresponding uncertainty across markets amid growing calls for President Cyril Ramaphosa to step down over an emerging bizarre scandal centered on the **alleged theft of \$580,000**. The over half million in cash was literally found stuffed in a sofa at a farm that Ramaphosa owns. The timing of the crisis couldn't be worse given long-awaited economic reforms had only just begun to take shape and improve the country's outlook.

The mysterious cash payment has sparked outrage particularly among the opponents of the ruling African National Congress, and with his allies holding emergency consultations. On Thursday South African media is reporting President Ramaphosa is to imminently address the nation as **prospect for his resignation grows**, and as he faces impeachment.

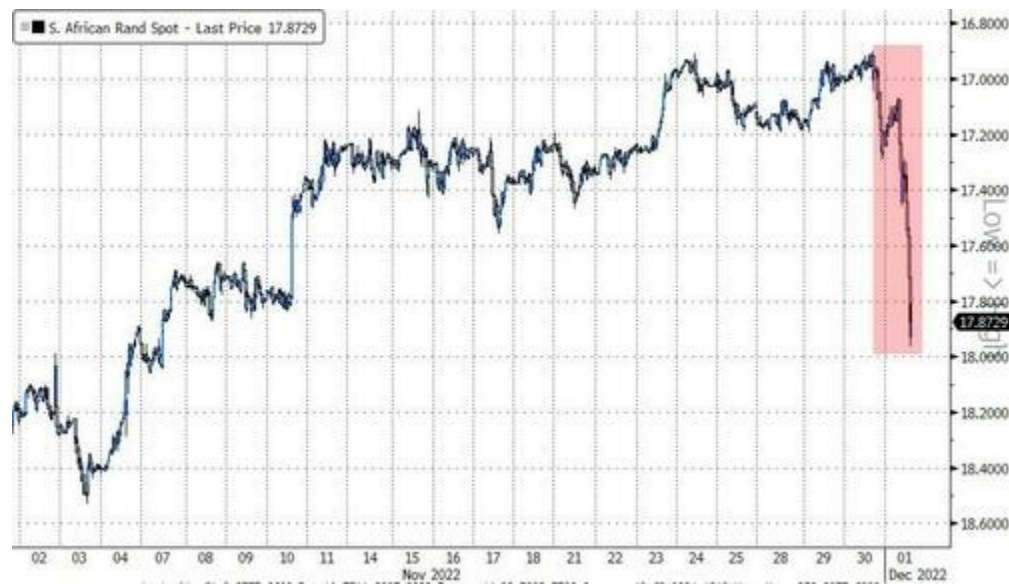
Ramaphosa, who has advanced himself as an 'anti-corruption' and reformist president, has vehemently denied wrongdoing in the scandal coming to be known as **"Farmgate"**, centered on a game farm he owns in South Africa's northeast.

According to a summary of the scandal in [CNBC](#):

*In what has become known as the “Farmgate” scandal, Ramaphosa is alleged to have **covered up a \$4 million theft from his Phala Phala farm in the north east of the country in 2020. Some \$580,000 of this was found beneath sofa cushions, and allegations also include working with Namibian authorities to apprehend, torture and bribe the suspects.***

*Ramaphosa staunchly denies the allegations and has not been charged with any crimes. **He maintains that the cash was the proceeds from the sale of buffalo.** He has confirmed that the robbery took place, but insists that the amount stolen was smaller than alleged and denies participating in a cover-up.*

The rand has **weakened more than 3% against the dollar** as the country is on edge awaiting Ramaphosa's and the ANC's next move. The economic reforms he set in motion are now seen as under threat by the major scandal, also as political succession within the ANC would remain uncertain.



According to more on the jitters unleashed across South African markets on news of Ramaphosa's likely impending resignation, via *Bloomberg*:

- The yield on 10-year local-currency bonds climbs 74 basis points to 11.55%, the most in a day since December 2015
- Benchmark dollar bonds lead losses among EM peers; 10-year yield up 48bps to 7.42%
- Dollar-rand one-week implied volatility surges to the highest since May 2022 at 20.4%
- 5-year CDS +12.5% to 274.62 bps, biggest jump since March 2021

developing...

Erdogan, middle east, war: dec1 turkish failed overthrow attempt, 2016, gulan movemment

On 15 July 2016, a faction within the [Turkish Armed Forces](#), organized as the [Peace at Home Council](#),^[32] attempted a [coup d'état](#) against state institutions, including the government and President [Recep Tayyip Erdoğan](#).^[33] They attempted to seize control of several places in [Ankara](#), [Istanbul](#), [Marmaris](#) and elsewhere, such as the Asian side entrance of the [Bosphorus Bridge](#), but failed to do so after forces loyal to the state defeated them. The Council cited an erosion of [secularism](#), elimination of democratic rule,^[34] disregard for human rights, and Turkey's loss of credibility in the international arena as reasons for the coup.^{[35][36]} The government^[37]^[38] said the coup leaders were linked to the [Gülen movement](#),^{[34][39]} which is designated as a terrorist organization by the [Republic of Turkey](#) and led by [Fethullah Gülen](#), a Turkish businessman^{[40][41][42][43]} and scholar^{[44][45][46]} who lives in [Pennsylvania](#).^[47] The Turkish government alleged that Gülen was behind the coup (which Gülen denied) and that the [United States](#) was harboring him.^{[48][49][50]} Events surrounding the coup attempt and the [purges in its aftermath](#) reflect a complex power struggle between [Islamist](#) elites in Turkey.^{[51][52]}

<https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2017/07/11/536011222/cleric-accused-of-plotting-turkish-coup-attempt-i-have-stood-against-all-coups>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fethullah_G%C3%BClen
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Turkish_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat_attempt

middle east, energy, war, sanctions: nov30 vcvvcv

The violence created one of the largest mixed-migration flows ever dealt with, reaching almost 800,000 migrants crossing the borders to flee violence, with some 263,000 reaching Egypt and 345,000 to Tunisia
Over 120 nationalities, and 5 separate categories of displaced persons could be identified: migrant workers, Libyan nationals, “boat-people” heading towards the European Union, internally displaced persons, and asylum-seekers and refugees who had previously been residing in Libya;⁷
4. Both of the countries to which Libyans and migrants were fleeing were in the midst of their own revolutions, which could have had a disastrous impact on their respect for the legal principle of non-refoulement, had

these 2 countries not kept their borders open. Yet, it did not. Both the Tunisian and Egyptian borders remained open;

5. Relations between the United Nations and the pre-revolutionary government with regard to the existing 8,000 refugees and over 3,000 asylum-seekers had been fragile and access had not been guaranteed to all;

6. Some 2.5 million migrant workers were estimated to be living in Libya prior to the uprising. Many of the Sub-Saharaners among them came to be viewed with extreme suspicion due to assumed connections with the previous regime, and faced particular aggression, abuse, and discrimination during the conflict;

7. The attempts by some Libyans (and Tunisians) to seek safety from the violence at home by crossing the Mediterranean sea triggered fears among European politicians and populations of arrivals in "Biblical" proportions that would "flood" their shores. This spurred on a flurry of legislative activity and patrolling of the waters to manage arrivals.

Qatari Official Casually Admits 'Between 400 & 500' Worker Deaths For World Cup Construction

BY TYLER DURDEN

WEDNESDAY, NOV 30, 2022 - 06:00 AM

[Authored by Brett Wilkins via Common Dreams.](#)

An Amnesty International campaigner on Tuesday led calls for "truth, justice, and compensation" after Qatar's World Cup chief **admitted that hundreds of migrant workers died during the construction of projects related to the FIFA tournament.**

In an [interview](#) with British journalist Piers Morgan aired on *TalkTV*, Hassan Al-Thawadi, secretary general of the Qatar World Cup Supreme Committee, was asked how many migrant workers—who make up 90% of the nation's workforce—have died during the construction of [\\$300 billion](#) worth of tournament-related infrastructure including stadiums, hotels, highways, railways, and an expanded international airport. **"The estimate is around 400, between 400 and 500,"** Al-Thawadi replied. "I don't have the exact number, that's something that's been discussed. One death is too many, it's as simple as that."

Responding to Al-Thawadi's remarks, Steve Cockburn, Amnesty International's head of economic and social justice, [said](#) that "the continued debate around the

number of workers who have died in the preparation of the World Cup exposes the stark reality that so many bereaved families are still waiting for truth and justice."

"Over the last decade, thousands of workers have returned home in coffins, with no explanation given to their loved ones," he noted. An [analysis](#) by *The Guardian* found that more than 6,500 workers from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka died in Qatar since the repressive Gulf monarchy was awarded soccer's premier international tournament in late 2010. ***The Guardian's estimate, however, has been criticized for counting all foreign worker deaths in the country over the past decade.***

"Qatar's **extreme heat and grueling working conditions** are likely to have contributed to hundreds of these deaths, but without full investigations, the true scale of lives lost can never be known," Cockburn continued.

"Meanwhile, families are suffering the added anguish of severe financial insecurity that comes from losing the main wage earner."

"There is nothing natural about this scale of loss and there can be no excuse for denying families truth, justice, and compensation any longer," he added. "Until all abuses suffered by migrant workers in Qatar are remedied, the legacy of this World Cup will be severely tarnished by their mistreatment."

Al-Thawadi asserted that conditions are improving for migrant workers in Qatar, noting the implementation of a 1,000 riyal, or about \$275, minimum monthly wage and increased attention to safety. "I think every year the health and safety standards on the sites are improving, at least on our sites, the World Cup sites, the ones that we're responsible for, most definitely," he said.

A spokesperson for Qatar's Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy **appeared to backpedal Al-Thawadi's remarks in a Tuesday statement** reiterating the Qatari government's **claim of just three work-related and 37 non-work-related migrant worker deaths** during the World Cup construction period.

"Separate quotes regarding figures refer to national statistics covering the period of 2014-2020 for all work-related fatalities (414) nationwide in Qatar, covering all sectors and nationalities," the agency [said](#).

Hari, a 27-year-old Nepalese builder who earned 700 riyals a month in a country where the average Qatari household [makes more than 100 times more, described working conditions](#) to *CNN* earlier this month:

It was too hot. The foreman was very demanding and used to complain a lot. The foreman used to threaten to reduce our salaries and overtime pay. I had to carry tiles on my shoulder to the top. It was very difficult going up through the scaffolding. In the pipeline work, there were 5-7 meters deep pits, we had to lay the stones and concrete, it was difficult due to the heat. **It was difficult to breathe. We had to come upstairs using a ladder to drink water. At**

some places, they didn't have water. Some places, they didn't provide us water on time. At some places, we used to go to houses nearby asking for water.

It never happened to me, but I saw some workers fainting at work. I saw one Bengali, one Nepali... two to three people faint while working. They took the Bengali to medical services. I'm not sure what happened to him.

A 2019 [study](#) of 1,300 Nepali migrant worker deaths in Qatar published in *Cardiology Journal* found a "strong correlation" between toiling in extreme heat and dying from heart problems.

f anyone says white people were bad because of slavery, kindly point out that not only did the middle eastern nations start this sh*t, they continue to do uphold slavery to this very day.

play_arrow66play_arrow

Baghdad_Bob

5 hours ago

Madeleine Albright: Yes, 500,000 dead Iraqi children were worth it.

play_arrow33play_arrow3

2+2 ≠ 5

5 hours ago

A few thousand dead indentured slaves are worth it for sportsball! Yay!!

play_arrow19play_arrow

arrowdent

2 hours ago

'Between 400 & 500' Worker Deaths For World Cup Construction

That's how many Palestinians

Apartheid Israhell [kills](#) in a given month.

play_arrow4play_arrow3

Ayn Stein

1 hour ago

The Big Game is the Event of the Year! Anyone who doesn't love The Big Game is unmutual and should be unpersoned and memoryholed!

play_arrowplay_arrow1

AtATrESICI

4 hours ago

500,000 dead kids, totally worth it.

play_arrow7play_arrow3

ThomasJefferson69

3 hours ago

(Edited)

You are a joke. You may as well claim 500 million dead children, it's just as believable.

However it has been documented that Islam has murdered some 590 million people over 1400 years.

play_arrow4play_arrow5

cyberchicken

2 hours ago

Whataboutism. A tactic employed by the Chinese communist party.

play_arrowplay_arrow3

PrinceMyshkin

2 hours ago

Hey moron, that was a direct citation from Madeline Albright, she said word for word, that the sanctions who caused the death of 500.000 children in Iraq were worth it f.ckwit.

play_arrow1play_arrow1

ThomasJefferson69

2 hours ago

Yea and she rode a unicorn to work every day.

play_arrow1play_arrow1

Leonine

1 hour ago

you are quite the prideful troll

play_arrow1play_arrow2

ThomasJefferson69

6 minutes ago

You would believe anything posted from the MSM.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Mile0

5 hours ago

Also, ashanti tribe.

play_arrow4play_arrow2

Lord RG

5 hours ago

Admits 400-500 deaths

so multiply that by factor x10 and once again conspiratory theorist who said
cca 4000ppl died were right

about racism: they say india people are more racist, even asian are racist
but only white cant be racist cause if white is racist he will be punished

Btw: im not racist, i dont like anybody thats my advantage :D

play_arrow4play_arrow2

2+2 ≠ 5

5 hours ago

Double or triple that figure to get cloer to the truth.

play_arrow4play_arrow1

t_kAyk

5 hours ago

(Edited)

I'll give the middle eastern chappies this: they looked at all the migrants and said "ya know, we have all the labor we will ever need right here and all they want is a meal card and an iPhone."

You may get away with that **** in the too nice white people countries but over in durka durka stan we still cut your head off boy.

play_arrow4play_arrow

Leonine

1 hour ago

durka durka!

play_arrow3play_arrow

sundalmurugan

3 hours ago

with whose help you jackass?

play_arrowplay_arrow

Show More Replies

tahoebumsmith

5 hours ago

So thousands of people die and are paid slave labor \$275 a month so the woketards can kick their ball around and get cheered on by a stadium full of Woketards? Pathetic.

play_arrow37play_arrow

rogerwaters69

3 hours ago

Well said, sir

play_arrow5play_arrow

Joe Davola

2 hours ago

(Edited)

Human nature doesn't change:

The Gladiator Colosseum - built by Jewish slaves, funded by loot from their Jerusalem Temple

How long did the Roman Empire hold sway before falling?

Since everything is time compressed these days, we are well past the Colosseum construction point on the downslope

play_arrow1play_arrow1

RebBiker

1 hour ago

Since muslims consider other muslims expendable, I guess they consider everyone else expendable, too.

play_arrow2play_arrow

Rabbi Zero

5 hours ago

(Edited)

Just write covid on the death certificate like the US does.

play_arrow32play_arrow1

Almachius

5 hours ago

(Edited)

Appoint Fauci as Superintendent over the whole construction operation, and all corpses would be swept under the rug.

play_arrow5play_arrow1

Castor gordo el tercero

5 hours ago

(Edited)

Who in the world would willingly go to a Muslim middle eastern country to work as a guest worker in construction? Answer is no one... These are slaves... But the US and europe don't have any concern about that... Only about gay rights...

play_arrow26play_arrow

John Evergreen

4 hours ago

As a US government contractor? \$100k+, with no US income tax. Back in the day that was a lot of money.

play_arrow2play_arrow1

bentaxle

3 hours ago

They make sure to get workers from countries that won't invade them. If they need US workers the Qataris soon back off. You will be allowed to keep your passport. They will honour your contract. They will try it on. If you complain they will back down.

play_arrow1play_arrow

sukittrebek

5 hours ago

Whats with the vagina shaped stadium.

play_arrow19play_arrow

BarryMcCockiner

5 hours ago

Reminds them of their pet goats

play_arrow13play_arrow

Dog Serious

5 hours ago

They said they wanted to build a stadium in respect of those with Angina, but got lost in the translation!

play_arrow8play_arrow

Rusticus

5 hours ago

It's none like I've ever seen, but then I've always been picky.

play_arrow3play_arrow

The Fool On The Hill

5 hours ago

(Edited)

Yeah, that's what I thought. Supposed to be a lotus, or sumpin, I guess.

PS. Just gagged it. Supposed to represent a dhow fishing boat. Beats me.

play_arrow1play_arrow

Von Hayek

5 hours ago

Dunno.

Pass me a Duff Beer.

play_arrow5play_arrow

MCDirtMigger

2 hours ago

You're not at all curious about the one shaped like a sphincter?

play_arrowplay_arrow

Show More Replies

css1971

PREMIUM

5 hours ago

"The estimate is around 400, between 400 and 500," Al-Thawadi replied

The translation from Arabic: We don't know so we'll just make some **** up.

play_arrow14play_arrow

The Fool On The Hill

5 hours ago

The translation from Arabic: We don't know AND WE DON'T CARE, so we'll just make some **** up.

play_arrow11play_arrow

Kat

PRO

3 hours ago

The West has adopted this same tactic after forcing its slaves...er...citizens to take a "vaccine".

play_arrow4play_arrow

HankLove

PREMIUM

5 hours ago

(Edited)

Piers Morgan now complicit of the understatement

play_arrow1play_arrow2

Blano

4 hours ago

When the J6 political prisoners are finally released in the US, and America becomes less of a banana republic, then I might start to care about other people.

Until then, don't care.

play_arrow8play_arrow

SpotemGottem Gekko Jr

5 hours ago
(Edited)

Soccer should be banned is it so boring. There are a handful of marquee players in the entire world, and the rest is just guys passing the ball around for hours (99.9% of the time) .

They literally could have picnics of fans in the middle of the field and it wouldn't change most matches. Just also place several BBQ grills at various points and the bloody ball would not hit them.

play_arrow8play_arrow8

Rusticus

5 hours ago

There's really no need to ban it; the smart people who find it boring choose not to watch it.

play_arrow4play_arrow3

SpotemGottem Gekko Jr

5 hours ago

This is correct. I am just butt hurt about the whole matter.

play_arrow4play_arrow1

John Evergreen

4 hours ago

There are a lot of smart people who still watch it because they are gay.

play_arrow2play_arrow3

Gregorius Swizzlepants

5 hours ago

But then Canadians wouldn't get to cheer for our "Canadian" national team, which is almost entirely made up of immigrants.

Nothing says Canada like cheering for our soccer stars, such as Ismaël Konè and Ikè Ugbo!

play_arrow6play_arrow

Leotardo

3 hours ago

(Edited)

That has already been going on in baseball for decades, Jr. Just leave football alone, willya?

play_arrowplay_arrow2

dojufitz

5 hours ago

Says all of them were named
Muhammad.

play_arrow7play_arrow1

takewhatyoucan64

5 hours ago

LMAO.....no loss at all

play_arrow2play_arrow1

takewhatyoucan64

5 hours ago

moslems are gonna moslem

play_arrow7play_arrow1

Mockingbird101

PREMIUM

2 hours ago

A lot of truth to this story. My brother-in-law was contracted to work 3 weeks with a construction company in Qatar to teach the workers how to build floors in warehouses. He said it's the most ***** up place he had ever seen. No engineer could make a decision on anything because of the fear of being deported without pay. You piss off the owner of the company they call the police and deport you.

No telling how many died.

play_arrow6play_arrow

koan

2 hours ago

Slavery never stopped in the ME, surprised how few know this.

play_arrow6play_arrow

tested-positive

3 hours ago

No Flash and Grab mobs in Qatar.

No rioting, looting and pillaging.

No Gay Parades or Trannie Rights.

No mass shootings.

Little crime of any kind.

How come?

play_arrow6play_arrow1

Krink26

3 hours ago

It was well worth it so woke assholes can watch kickball and lecture others about human rights.

play_arrow6play_arrow1

Castor gordo el tercero

5 hours ago

It was so many that he felt he couldn't get away with admitting to anything less than 4 or 500 hundred? There must have been 1500 or more...

play_arrow6play_arrow

Castor gordo el tercero

5 hours ago

They paid for a lot of it with black market organs i bet. The world is run by a level of evil we have not seen before...

play_arrow6play_arrow

goldhoarder

4 hours ago

Chinese "quarantine" camps

play_arrow2play_arrow

McGantic

5 hours ago

That shows how far behind the culture and conditions in Qatar are compared to other nations.

For example, a grand total of zero people died during construction for the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Always imagined Qatar as being more of an advanced nation, but those are African nation numbers.

play_arrow6play_arrow

GatorMcClusky

5 hours ago

The estimate is around 400, between 400 and 500," Al-Thawadi replied. "I don't have the exact number, that's something that's been discussed. One death is too many, it's as simple as that."

Dude needs someone to write for him like they do for Biden.

play_arrow6play_arrow

American Citizen

5 hours ago

Based on the quote I thought the guy already wrote for Biden.

play_arrow4play_arrow

buzzsaw99

3 hours ago

a vaxxed reporter at the competition went down like a sack of dirt. they cut off the video right before his face hit the ground.

play_arrow5play_arrow2

MANvsMACHINE

2 hours ago

You sure it wasn't Kamala? Going down like a sack of dirt is her specialty.

play_arrowplay_arrow

YesWeKahn

5 hours ago

How many dead to construct north American rail roads?

play_arrow5play_arrow2

Totally_Disillusioned

1 hour ago

And when the world cup was televised in China the CCP blurred all images of the spectators in the stadium so that Chinese viewers would not see maskless people. CCP controls streaming feeds via their intrrnet.

play_arrow4play_arrow

ParanoidSquirrel

1 hour ago

Those middle east nations bring in a lot of workers from places like India and treat them terribly. It's a "caste" system where the local host country Arabs look down on all the imported workers. The workers go into debt to get the money to get there for work thinking it is their ticket out of poverty. Once there, their passports get taken, they get put in horrible living conditions and forced to work in terrible conditions. Just a step up from slaves...they truly have a hard life...

play_arrow4play_arrow

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

AT LEAST THEY ARE NOT FORCED TO WEAR FACEMASKS.

play_arrowplay_arrow1

StopGaslightingMe

2 hours ago

Look to them we are "useless eaters" unless they have a project they need to complete then we are simply useless eater "tools" they use to get the job done. If some of the tools break they will be replaced by other tools and the old broken tools tossed in the garbage.

play_arrow4play_arrow

emcee

3 hours ago

Klaus would be proud.

play_arrow4play_arrow

OutWithLibs

3 hours ago

In the US the majority of "migrants" aren't workers, they are *asylum seekers* who get free cell phones, taxpayer money, free housing and in some idiot sanctuary states, the right to vote.

play_arrow4play_arrow

Multi

4 hours ago

With the ferocious needle running amok, you cannot make much sense of death statistics.

Then, at the end, they just throw this pearl in: "[a 2019 study] *found a 'strong correlation' between toiling in extreme heat and dying from heart problems*". Don't you say, heart problems, really?

What about how many of the deceased were "vaccinated" (wink wink)?

It is just the biggest gaslighting operation in human history.

play_arrow4play_arrow

eyewillcomply

4 hours ago

Soccer is the most boring spectator sport imaginable. What is the great allure?

play_arrow4play_arrow3

AZ Man

3 hours ago

It gives loser countries something to like about themselves.

play_arrow4play_arrow

Gefeltafudge

3 hours ago

Better than Sominex.

play_arrowplay_arrow

OutWithLibs

3 hours ago

(Edited)

Have you ever watched baseball? At least players in soccer are constantly moving

play_arrow5play_arrow5

ClimbingTheLog

4 hours ago

So **THE SICKNESS** was less dangerous than working construction?

Better **DESTROY THE ECONOMY** then!

Good job, Harvard. "Mimic the Communists" was all they could muster.

play_arrow4play_arrow

nicxios

5 hours ago

5 people died building the Empire State Building, and that was low for those days' standards. Add extreme heat to the mix. Just sayin'.

play_arrow4play_arrow1

Castor gordo el tercero

5 hours ago

96 officially died building the hoover dam... Though there were many deaths covered up...

play_arrow4play_arrow

John Evergreen

4 hours ago

Those deaths were from covid

play_arrow4play_arrow

Leonine

1 hour ago

wouldve been worse if they werent vaccinated

play_arrow1play_arrow

Obamanism666

5 hours ago

(Edited)

remove
link

May be he should blame COVID-19 for 450 deaths. Fauci would

if ex-workers keep dying say it was the clot shot given to prevent the COVID 19. Us the weapons of the DS and swamp against them

aeslong

2 hours ago

(Edited)

death due to forced "vax"

play_arrow3play_arrow1

!!!

2 hours ago

(Edited)

When working in the heat, it is essential to stay hydrated. If you dont drink enough water you dramatically increase your risk of death. Not providing workers with adequate water is murder.

play_arrow3play_arrow

dr80

PREMIUM

2 hours ago

these mutherfarkers arab muslims do not treat foreign migrant workers as human being, especially "infidels" are treated as farm animals or worse.

play_arrow3play_arrow1

dustinthewind

2 hours ago

Compare that to Pfizer gene therapy deaths.

play_arrow3play_arrow

A.Retard

2 hours ago

the money Pfizer made works great

play_arrowplay_arrow

MCDirtMigger

2 hours ago

Wait a minute. Why aren't Muslim migrants going to Qatar for work? Why do they come to Europe?

play_arrow3play_arrow

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

"PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW WHEN THEY ARE CONQUERED."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JXmCouSVSC4>

play_arrowplay_arrow1

AZ Man

3 hours ago

Only American cities get boycotted by sport franchises as a result of virtue signaling.

play_arrow3play_arrow

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

(Edited)

IT'S THE VAXXXINES, STUPID!!!!

MILLIONS DEAD, MAIMED, AND WITH SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS FROM THE MODERNA/PFIZER mRNA MENGELE CLOTSHOTS...BUT AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SAYS NOTHING.

play_arrow2play_arrow

Chargly 2

21 minutes ago

Wonder why?

How about international sex worker "facilitators"? That a pretty fair and delightful industry?

Are their "clients" having to work 16 hours and pee in bottles?

Does anyone start to wonder if there will be anyone left in America after the wrath of God hits such a wickedly oblivious, selfish, and clueless bunch of azholes?

That's after abortion as well. And now this coerced homicidal suicide pact with big pharma and government to sterilize and cull humans. Because the TV told them to.

play_arrowplay_arrow

RITEPOWAH

2 hours ago

the jabbed will DIE

play_arrow2play_arrow1

MANvsMACHINE

2 hours ago

So will the unjabbed. Just a bunch of years later.

play_arrow1play_arrow1

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

WRONG, THE WHACKEDXXXINATED ARE NO LONGER MADE IN G-D'S IMAGE. THEIR SOUL IS DAMNED.

THE PUREBLOOD'S SOUL IS ETERNAL AND CAN KEEP ASCENDING.

play_arrowplay_arrow1

beavertails

4 hours ago

Meanwhile, over 100,000 Ukranians have died in less than a year because they keep poking the bear and they edit that bitchez speech.

play_arrow2play_arrow

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

OVER HALF A MILLION, BUT MANY OF THOSE ARE POLES, GERMANS, FRENCH, ROMANIANS, FINNS, AUSTRALIANS, CANADIANS, SPANIARDS, BELGIANS, BRITISH, SWEDES.....

play_arrowplay_arrow1

NoPension

4 hours ago

It was only...like...400. BFD....

play_arrow2play_arrow

Fran Flintstone

5 hours ago

Get back on that ladder and quit your crying. You sound like an American Trump voter.

play_arrow2play_arrow7

Invert This, Media Matters Monkeys

5 hours ago

(Edited)

This Troll Farm Monkey posts under several aliases :

- ElonsTwitter
- ElonTrump
- Fran flintstone
- Shaminator
- Frank Zappa Lives
- Real Ivanka
- President Hunter
- Hunters Angel
- Sponge Bob Square Pants
- NickPeeMe
- And Many More

play_arrow10play_arrow1

John Evergreen

4 hours ago

Who pays him?

play_arrow2play_arrow2

Fran Flintstone

3 hours ago

This troll farm Monkey has his head up his *** so far he found the gerbil.^^

play_arrowplay_arrow5

Invert This, Media Matters Monkeys

3 hours ago

And I still managed to find you once again, Troll****

play_arrow3play_arrow

Fran Flintstone

3 hours ago

Seeing how I seem to be living in your head you might try and charge rent. You keep better track of my screen names that keep getting banned because of free speech than I do.

play_arrowplay_arrow4

Invert This, Media Matters Monkeys

3 hours ago

(Edited)

Yesterday you used ElonsTwitter as proof you weren't banned. How soon you forget, Troll****.

Trump and conservatives in general should charge you rent. You live a lie being a *****. Yet you keep coming back for more. Ask your handlers to send you to troll Teen Vogue. You won't get banned there.

play_arrow3play_arrow

Almachius

5 hours ago

Meanwhile, US and UK leaders dissuaded Zelenski from accepting a peace agreement with Russia last March, promising instead to fund and supply the war until Russia was defeated.

How many lives that belligerence caused!

play_arrow2play_arrow1

goldhoarder

4 hours ago

They are fighting for freedom or money laundering or something...

play_arrow1play_arrow

El Hosel

5 hours ago

NEXT

play_arrow2play_arrow

Ghiaur

5 hours ago

It was a sacrifice he was willing to make. Thanks for playing!

play_arrow2play_arrow

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

HOW MANY DIED BUILDING CHINA'S GREAT WALL....AND AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SAYS NOTHING.

play_arrow1play_arrow

Somewhat Unisex

1 hour ago

We labor'd some folks.

Any chance we can put these guys in charge of our migrants too?

play_arrow1play_arrow1

Galtmandu

1 hour ago

(Edited)

In comparison, 5 people reportedly died building the Empire State building 90 years ago.

You have to purposefully create an unsafe worksite today to get 500 people killed.

I have statistic'd,

Galtmandu

play_arrow1play_arrow1

Bullet_Sponge

2 hours ago

Shocking number of deaths. It sounds a lot like the chernobyl incident where mid level officials trying to appease their bosses put pressure on people below them like a lot of bosses do.

Hope this doesn't derail the efforts. I watched the interview with the Qatar official, everything he was saying was right on. Looks like they're trying to do the right thing.

Sporting events take a while to get into. People have to fall in love with the players, has to be drama...

Also people can only care so much about a sport they watch but don't participate in. Everyone has different interests. Some of the money spent on soccer stadiums could be spent on the 2nd, 3rd most popular sports.

play_arrow1play_arrow

MANvsMACHINE

2 hours ago

Who cares about a bunch of sweaty men chasing a ball?

What the article fails to mention is the fact that all 400-500 who died were vaxxed and boosted. If not, it would have been so much worse.

play_arrow2play_arrow

Everybody Ropes, Everybody Rides

2 hours ago

Always amazes me the amount of money that is spent on circuses.

play_arrow1play_arrow

Games Without Frontiers

2 hours ago

[remove](#)
[link](#)

They virtue signal then awarded these guys the World Cup.

Que Pasa Miami

2 hours ago

More likely 4 or 5 thousand, but who really cares anyhow.

play_arrow1play_arrow1

THE END BEGINS

2 hours ago

(Edited)

How many of those people (real people) who walked among us died lost i.e. never personally received Christ and were on the road to perdition when alive? It's a good bet that most of them, if not all of them, are now in an eternity of suffering that they will never, ever escape from.

Jesus said that on judgment day, many will be turned away from entering Heaven even though they claimed his name and performed many wonderful works in his name. He said even those who cast out demons in his name will be turned away ...

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:22-23).

The reason that they were turned away is because they were do-gooders. They we're trusting in their riches and their good works to save them. They did not possess the one qualification that allows someone entrance into Heaven.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

Is your name in that book? I hope so. Find out what that one qualification is that you may possess eternal life and be allowed entrance into Heaven by clicking the link below..

[ETERNAL SECURITY DEBATE 1: CAN A PERSON LOSE THEIR SALVATION ONCE SAVED?](#)

[CONDITIONALISM VS. ETERNAL TORMENT VS. UNIVERSAL RECONCILIATION](#)

play_arrow1play_arrow2

jamesedtx

2 hours ago

There is no hell. Salvation is for the children of Israel. 500 workers dying over a 12 year period in one of the world's ****hole's isn't a big deal.

play_arrowplay_arrow2

THE END BEGINS

2 hours ago

(Edited)

[LIFE AFTER DEATH: VISIONS OF HELL](#)

The rich, the poor, the in-between, the indifferent ... "*ALL*" who are without Christ shall be driven into damnation and have no hope for eternal life once they breathe their last breath. Is this you?

play_arrow1play_arrow2

MANvsMACHINE

2 hours ago

Prove it.

play_arrow1play_arrow1

A.Retard

2 hours ago

the stupid rules in soccer make no sense

play_arrow1play_arrow

A.Retard

2 hours ago

for a stupid soccer game LOL

play_arrow1play_arrow

toady

2 hours ago

"Meh... **** happens."

-Hassan Al-Thawadi

play_arrow1play_arrow

rando

3 hours ago

I'm guessing that was the similar death toll "PER DAY" on slaves when the Kings and Pharaohs erected all those Pyramids and Penis symbol structures. Mines bigger!

play_arrow1play_arrow

thealtthug

2 hours ago

Exactly. Same thing, different time.

play_arrow1play_arrow

IamNewt

3 hours ago

Just like ancient Egypt. Maybe they can enslave the right people again?

play_arrow1play_arrow

Powerball_Trillionaire

3 hours ago

Only 800 were stoned to death....

play_arrow1play_arrow1

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

BRITISH HOOLIGANS ARE ALWAYS DRUNK AND STONED.

play_arrowplay_arrow1

tested-positive

3 hours ago

Get with the program.

Every last one of those deaths can be attributed to Covid-19.

What's this **** about the heat and harsh working conditions?

play_arrow1play_arrow2

buzzsaw99

3 hours ago

<https://t.me/covidbc/6943>

play_arrow1play_arrow1

ssgredux

4 hours ago

Does that include gay workers who took a flying leap off a tall building?

play_arrow1play_arrow

Ban K Killer

4 hours ago

Moo slim and his low IQ, inbred followers can't build anything. Too stupid.

play_arrow1play_arrow1

capndiesalot

PREMIUM

4 hours ago

I do not care.

play_arrow1play_arrow

QABubba

4 hours ago

It is possible to have both safe and profitable workplaces. I worked in the oilfield of the seventies, and we lost three people within two weeks.

It is not like that now.

play_arrow1play_arrow1

goldhoarder

4 hours ago

The USA had an actual economy back then.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Ahmeexnal

1 hour ago

YEP, VIETNAM KEPT THE MILITARY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX ALIVE AND KICKING.

play_arrowplay_arrow1

Hermit in a Cave

5 hours ago

Piers the pleb thinks writing uncensored next to his name actually makes him more trustworthy? ☐

play_arrow1play_arrow

Dog Serious

5 hours ago

(Edited)

Whipped to death in the name of whatever!

play_arrow1play_arrow

Cranky The Un-clown

3 hours ago

It's the cost of doing business
Can we hand out the cup now?
play_arrowplay_arrow2

Ink Pusher

6 minutes ago

'Qatari Official Casually Admits 'Between 400 & 500' Worker Deaths For World Cup Construction'

Translation:

***Acceptable death toll** for the creation of a venue for an international sporting event where alcohol sales will be prohibited and politics will overshadow all participants or competitors.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Chargly 2

10 minutes ago

(Edited)

Thankfully, here in America!

The upper body of congress voted to show those cutaris a thing or two and demand same sex marriage. For everyone!

Because unlike doing their presumed jobs to not possibly murder everyone with intent or out of indifference or fear, or for profit, and oppose Der vaxxes.

They cannot even pass a resolution to not do that to American school kids!

But trans people are ruling the insane distracted asylum apparently.

However, in cutar, Muslim 9th century jumped up goat herders are mean n' sh*t!

Who would have guessed?!

play_arrowplay_arrow

Crush the cube

12 minutes ago

How else did you expect them to get that turf so green and lush in the desert?

play_arrowplay_arrow

Chargly 2

19 minutes ago

[remove](#)
[link](#)

What isn't highlighted is the religion likely of some of these migrants.

But that sports ball was sure good.

Almost like it isn't the end of the world.

Chargly 2

29 minutes ago

Did they at least not have to pee in bottles and get 4 or 5 months off for mlk and (those people's) history "months"?

play_arrowplay_arrow

Chargly 2

31 minutes ago

So these cutaris are crackers?

Yeah this happens all the time with migrant workers.. in the middle east

Dude was working a slave labor game of chance or extreme workout construction job at 100 times under the average cutari salary?

That doesn't seem super nice.

Are we sure cutaris are not pews?

Well at least they hate trans people and made Telemundo female reporters there for raving mad Mexicans wear head rags.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Francis Marxximus

43 minutes ago

You don't want a Christian God...you have the alternative god who does not love and could care less. Rubs off onto the followers.

play_arrowplay_arrow1

Trapper Creek

PRO

51 minutes ago

There's no QOSHA in Qatar is there ?

play_arrowplay_arrow

Purple Rabbit

56 minutes ago

They were a sacrifice to the moon gods of Baall.

play_arrowplay_arrow

CovidBannedTard

58 minutes ago

Work them to death and delay their pay for 11 months.

Slave labor keeps the Western World entertained.

play_arrowplay_arrow

LouTurks

PREMIUM

1 hour ago

Qatar gives gifts to those in power so it's ok.

play_arrowplay_arrow

lion in winter

1 hour ago

thats the norm for infrastructure projects.

play_arrowplay_arrow

3.14159

1 hour ago

Working humans to death in the desert heat. That hasnt been done in AmeriKa in over a hundred years.

Old traditions die hard...

play_arrowplay_arrow

LouTurks

PREMIUM

1 hour ago

Oh look at you. Your TV knowledge is good.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Pooter

1 hour ago

lol make Himalayian Sherpas work in the hot sunny desert, what do you think would happen?

play_arrowplay_arrow

CryptoingTheLightFantastic

2 hours ago

(Edited)

Fortunately for Europe, the same people who hate Europeans for religious and racist reasons will now be providing them with all of their natural gas! At least until the utopia of Year Zero becomes manifest throughout the EU via solar panels and wind turbines made by 12 year old Chinese girls in CCP slave labor camps. Imagine how bad this situation could be if the West didn't have such a strong moral conscience and wasn't so dedicated to the sacred principles of democracy.

play_arrowplay_arrow1

moonmac

2 hours ago

This should have been solved in 1946.

play_arrowplay_arrow1

Spacelord77

3 hours ago

Yet the woke western teams are happily there practicing their propaganda...

Same as: "We have to reduce our electricity usage but we want everyone to buy an EV"

play_arrowplay_arrow

ThomasJefferson69

3 hours ago

Just TCNs....lol.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Powerball_Trillionaire

3 hours ago

What say you Snidley, you Iranian boot licker?

play_arrowplay_arrow2

zeroisunbiased

3 hours ago

why don't fans build it in exchange for free tickets? problem solved in more ways than one...

play_arrowplay_arrow1

Offthebeach

4 hours ago

Important thing were the Apple Iphone Pro 14 adds successful?

play_arrowplay_arrow

HistoryRepeat

4 hours ago

Sounds like Budweiser should have donated all that beer to the workers.

play_arrowplay_arrow

Vinividivinci

4 hours ago

"It is what it is" ...

play_arrowplay_arrow

back4more

4 hours ago

remove
link

Nothing to see here, move along...

..

5 hours ago

(Edited)

.

play_arrowplay_arrow

HankLove

PREMIUM

5 hours ago

remove
link

Al-Thawadi master of Al-Taqiyyah

play_arrowplay_arrow

Castor gordo el tercero

5 hours ago

How many of those were executions?

play_arrowplay_arrow1

john milton

5 hours ago

Pls dont start bashing qatar now..

Liver sausage just made huge 15y lng contract with them..

Double stantards at play here again

play_arrowplay_arrow1

war, sanctions: nov30 Lights Go Out On Hungary Stadiums, Theatres As Energy Crisis Bites

Rocketing energy bills are forcing Hungary to shutter libraries, theatres, swimming pools and even its new football stadiums for winter.

History, government: nov30 germany defeats france 1940, 10's of thousands of british, french, and german casualties

this results in the german occupation of france after an armistice was signed. It lasted for 4 years, 1940-1944 until the [Liberation of France](#) after the [Normandy](#) and [Provence landings](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German_military_administration_in_occupied_France_during_World_War_II

The term **Malgré-nous** (lit. 'we despite ourselves', or more figuratively 'we who are forced against our will') refers to men from [Alsace-Lorraine](#) who were [conscripted](#) into the German military after the region's annexation from [France](#) during [World War II](#). The female term *Malgré-elles* is sometimes used to refer to the Alsace-Moselle women also drafted against their will into the general German War effort.^[1]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malgr%C3%A9-nous>

Memory of the [Napoleonic Wars](#) was still fresh in the 1870s. Wilhelm I himself had had to flee with the Prussian royal family to East Prussia as a nine year old in 1806 and had served in the [Battle of Waterloo](#)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alsace%E2%80%93Lorraine>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German_Empire

china, stats, sanctions: nov29 smartphone marketshare by vender on statista shows huawei go from holding up to 20% marketshare and closely rivaling samsung

(japan), and apple (usa), to literally disappearing from the graph...



rs. [Huawei's market share](https://www.statista.com/statistics/271496/global-market-share-held-by-smartphone-vendors-since-4th-quarter-2009/) reached up to 20 percent in previous years, however, strong performances from rivals and the effects of the U.S. trade ban have since seen Huawei fall outside the list of top five vendors by smartphone shipments.
<https://www.statista.com/statistics/271496/global-market-share-held-by-smartphone-vendors-since-4th-quarter-2009/>

stats, tech: nov29 **Quantum computer recieves \$823 million in 2021, up 70% from the year ago period according to marketwatch, November 29th 2022,**

Quantum computing is also in the midst of a venture-capital funding boom, receiving a record \$823 million in 2021, up more than 70% from 2020. Palo Alto-based PsiQuantum received \$450 million, which gave the company a \$3.1 billion valuation. Toronto-based Xanadu, a designer of quantum silicon photonic chips received \$100 million.

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/more-risk-doesnt-always-mean-greater-reward-just-look-at-these-imploded-tech-stocks-11669712414>

middle east, war, energy: nov29 Iraqi Kurdistan. 2014,
Washington Post business, nice due diligence
https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/new-oil-pipeline-boosts-iraqi-kurdistan-the-region-made-of-three-northern-provinces/2014/06/12/50635600-ef30-11e3-bf76-447a5df6411f_story.html

history, war, government, erdogan: nov29 The 1923 Treaty of Lausanne, superseded the Treaty of Sèvres

The 1923 [Treaty of Lausanne](#), which superseded the Treaty of Sèvres, ended the conflict and saw the establishment of the [Republic of Turkey](#).





Kurds comprise anywhere from 18 to 25% of the population in Turkey, 15 to 20% in Iraq 10% in Iran; and 9% in Syria.

After [World War I](#) and the defeat of the [Ottoman Empire](#), the victorious [Western allies](#) made provision for a Kurdish state in the 1920 [Treaty of Sèvres](#). However, that promise was broken three years later, when the [Treaty of Lausanne](#) set the boundaries of modern Turkey and made no such provision, leaving Kurds with minority status in all of the new countries.^[40] Recent [history of the Kurds](#) includes numerous [genocides](#) and [rebellions](#), along with ongoing armed conflicts in [Turkish](#), [Iranian](#), [Syrian](#), and [Iraqi Kurdistan](#). Kurds in Iraq and Syria have autonomous regions, while Kurdish movements continue to pursue greater [cultural rights](#), [autonomy](#), and [independence](#) throughout Kurdistan.

The ceding of [Eastern Mediterranean](#) lands saw the introduction of novel polities, including the British [Mandate for Palestine](#) and the French [Mandate for Syria and Lebanon](#).^[7]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_S%C3%A8vres

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk (1923-1938), Ideologically a secularist and nationalist, founding father of the Republic of Turkey, serving as its first president

Atatürk came to prominence for his role in securing the Ottoman Turkish victory at the [Battle of Gallipoli](#) (1915) during [World War I](#).^[9] Following the [defeat and dissolution of the Ottoman Empire](#), he led the [Turkish National Movement](#), which resisted mainland Turkey's partition among the victorious [Allied powers](#). Establishing a [provisional government](#) in the present-day Turkish capital [Ankara](#) (known in English at the time as Angora), he defeated the forces sent by the Allies, thus emerging victorious from what was later referred to as the [Turkish War of Independence](#). He subsequently proceeded to abolish the decrepit [Ottoman Empire](#) and proclaimed the foundation of the Turkish Republic in its place.

As the president of the newly formed Turkish Republic, Atatürk initiated a rigorous program of political, economic, and cultural reforms with the ultimate aim of building a modern, progressive and secular nation-state. He made primary education free and compulsory, opening thousands of new schools all over the country. He also introduced the Latin-based [Turkish alphabet](#), replacing the old [Ottoman Turkish alphabet](#). Turkish women received [equal civil and political rights](#) during Atatürk's presidency.^[10] In particular, [women were given voting rights](#) in local elections by Act no. 1580 on 3 April 1930 and a few years later, in 1934, full universal suffrage.^[11]

His government carried out a policy of [Turkification](#), trying to create a homogeneous, unified and above all [secular](#) nation under the Turkish banner.^{[12][13][14]} Under Atatürk, the [minorities in Turkey](#) were asked to [speak Turkish](#) in public, but also were allowed to maintain their own languages at the same time;^[15] non-Turkish [toponyms](#) and minorities were ordered to get a Turkish surname as per [Turkish renditions](#).^{[16][17]} The [Turkish Parliament](#) granted him the surname Atatürk in 1934, which means "Father of the Turks", in recognition of the role he played in building the modern Turkish Republic.^[18] He [died](#) on 10 November 1938 at [Dolmabahçe Palace](#) in [Istanbul](#), at the age of 57;^[19] he was succeeded as president by his long-time prime minister [İsmet İnönü](#)^[20] and was honored with a [state funeral](#).

Stats, war, energy: nov29 world coastlines closeups, mapped; found by searching sea of marmara, a massive lake within turkey that connects the black sea in



The **Black Sea** is a large inland sea which spans **168,500 square miles** - roughly, about the same size as California, situated between **Europe** and **Asia**. During the past few centuries, it has held a **strategic and economic importance to Russia**. For security reasons too, **Russia** relies on the Crimean port of **Sevastopol** and **Novorossiysk** - large, warm-water seaports with extensive cargo transloading facilities for **maritime trade** to the rest of the world as well as for **naval power** - so that it can **maintain control of the sea in the south**. The **Black Sea** is vital for **Russia** as it provides **transit routes to the Sea of Marmara**, the **Mediterranean** and the **Atlantic Ocean**. As the **world's largest exporter of grains**, it is via the warm-water ports of the Black Sea basin which Russia is able to ship its cargo

anywhere in the world **all year round**. In 2020, the **Russia Federation's container port throughput** was approximately **4,871, 919 twenty-foot equivalent units** (TEUs).
https://en.as.com/en/2022/02/25/latest_news/1645814627_130506.html

war, sanctions ,middle east: nov29 Tehran claims 300 people have lost their lives during protests, The Islamic Republic announced on 28 November

war, sanctions, middle east: nov29 Turkey has invaded northern Syria three times before

The last Turkish military operation in October 2019, "Operation Peace Spring," displaced around 300,000 people and led to accusations by human rights monitors that Turkey had committed war crimes.

Turkey views the SDF as the Syrian offshoot of the PKK and as a consistent security threat on its southern border.

The SDF is backed by the US and was the ground force which routed the so-called Islamic State (IS) from Syria in 2019. It also presides over detention camps and prisons which hold tens of thousands of suspected IS fighters.

China, war: nov29 Japan, Philippines Hold First Air Defense Training

War, middle east: Nov29 turkey

Over the past two weeks, Turkiye has been [attacking](#) the positions of Kurdish militias in northern Syria and [Iraq](#), allegedly in pursuit of those [responsible](#) for a terror attack in Istanbul.

The attacks have targeted the [Kurdistan Workers' Party](#) (PKK) and the People Protection Units (YPG) – two

militias that make up the bulk of the US-backed [Syrian Democratic Forces](#) (SDF).

Al Akhbar's sources allege that, in addition to preparing lists of fighters and doing an inventory of their weapons, the Turkish officials are pushing their hired militias to overcome any [differences](#) with the [Hayat Tahrir al-Sham](#) (HTS) armed group – formerly known as the Al-Nusra Front – which is also expected to take part in the Turkish ground offensive.

In an attempt to defuse the situation, [Russia](#) has been in talks with the SDF to convince the group to hand over control of the cities of Ain al-Arab, Manbij, and Tal Rifaat to Damascus. However, these talks have yet to bear fruit, as the Kurdish groups are reportedly divided between leaving with the least possible damage by opening up to Damascus, and trusting in the [promises](#) of the US government.

While Washington has condemned the attacks on Kurdish targets, US officials have also expressed '[understanding](#)' for Turkiye's actions.

Nonetheless, the SDF is seemingly convinced that Ankara's escalation is made "just for show" months before presidential elections in the country and believes Washington will stop any ground offensive before it starts.

Censorship, government: nov29 Former USIA Director of TV and Film Service [Alvin Snyder](#) recalled in his 1995 memoir that "the U.S. government ran a full-service public relations organization, the largest in the world

Former USIA Director of TV and Film Service [Alvin Snyder](#) recalled in his 1995 memoir that "the U.S. government ran a full-service public relations organization, the largest in the world, about the size of the twenty biggest U.S. commercial PR firms combined. Its full-time professional staff of more than 10,000, spread out among some 150 countries, burnished America's image and trashed the Soviet Union 2,500 hours a week with a 'tower of babble' comprised of more than 70 languages, to the tune of over \$2 billion per year". "The biggest branch of this propaganda machine" was the USIA.^[1]

Within the US, the USIA was intended to assure Americans that "[t]he United States was working for a better world".^[8] Abroad, the USIA tried to preserve a positive image of the U.S. regardless of negative depictions from communist propaganda. One notable example was [Project Pedro](#). This secretly funded project created newsreels in Mexico during the 1950s that portrayed [Communism](#) unfavorably and the United States positively.^[9] Articles reflecting the views promoted by the USIA were frequently published under fictitious [bylines](#), such as "Guy Sims Fitch".^{[10][11]}

byline as "a printed line of text accompanying a news story, article, or the like, giving the author's name"

USIA's broadcasting functions were moved to the newly created [Broadcasting Board of Governors](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Information_Agency

The Broadcasting Board of Governors is the largest public diplomacy program by the U.S. government, reaching an audience of 278 million by broadcasting in 100 countries and 61 languages. The agency was created in 1942 during World War II to send pro-democracy news across Europe, as it aimed to counter Nazi and Japanese propaganda. The agency has since evolved into a more traditional news operation, while still pushing out the virtues of democracy worldwide.

Because of the modification of the Smith-Mundt Act in 2013, the BBG can now broadcast in the U.S., too. But the influence on the domestic market could be even more subtle, the Republican official warned.

"On Jan. 21, we'll have a welcoming ceremony for our next CEO, who could be Steve Bannon, or Laura Ingraham or Ann Coulter," said a senior Voice of America staffer.

The covert mentality penetrated nearly every aspect of American life. The mandarins decided that American students should attend international conferences and youth festivals to counteract Soviet propaganda. So the CIA secretly began funding the National Student Association. Anti-communist intellectuals in Europe were deemed worthy of aid, so the CIA subsidized the Congress for

Cultural Freedom and Encounter magazine. It was decided that we should help democratic parties in Europe resist communist pressure. The CIA did it covertly.

When these covert activities surfaced (as they inevitably did), the fallout was devastating. The CIA connection, intended to protect people and organizations from public embarrassment, had precisely the opposite effect.

"A lot of what we do today was done covertly 25 years ago by the CIA," agrees Weinstein. The biggest difference is that when such activities are done overtly, the flap potential is close to zero. Openness is its own protection.

INNOCENCE ABROAD: THE NEW WORLD OF SPYLESS COUPS
rest of article

INNOCENCE ABROAD: THE NEW WORLD OF SPYLESS COUPS
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By David Ignatius September 22, 1991 ♦ Follow @ignatiuspost

NOBODY WAS rude enough to say so during last week's confirmation hearings for Robert M. Gates to head the CIA, but the old era of covert action is dead. The world doesn't run in secret anymore. We are now living in the Age of Overt Action.

The great democratic revolution that has swept the globe over the past few years has been a triumph of overt action. The CIA old boys spent a generation fantasizing about this sort of global anti-communist putsch. But when it finally happened, it was in the open. There were no secret paramilitary armies, and there was almost no bloodshed. The key operatives in the conspiracy turned out to be telephones, televisions and fax machines.

Working in broad daylight, the United States and its allies were able to do things that would have been unthinkable had they been done in the shadows. Consider:

When Boris Yeltsin's aides were trying to rally support for their resistance in Moscow on Aug. 19, the first day of the coup, they needed to broadcast their defiant message to Russia and the world. One of them sent a fax to Allen Weinstein, a pro-democracy activist who heads a think tank in Washington.

"Did Mr. Bush make any comments upon the situation in this country?" implored the handwritten fax message. "If he did, make it known by all means of communication to the people of this country. The Russian government has no NO ways to address the people. All

radio stations are under control. The following is {Boris Yeltsin's} address to the Army. Submit it to USIA. Broadcast it over the country. Maybe 'Voice of America.' Do it! Urgent!"

And it was done, in the open.

Next, it was time for the leader of the free world to contact the Kremlin rebel who was seeking to dismantle the Soviet empire and destroy the Communist Party. And how was this contact, arguably the most sensitive and delicate in the history of the Cold War, handled? George Bush called Boris Yeltsin on the telephone. And then he went on television and described his conversation.

We didn't need the CIA to support Yeltsin's counter coup. We just needed a telephone operator.

Preparing the ground for last month's triumph of overt action was a network of overt operatives who during the last 10 years have quietly been changing the rules of international politics. They have been doing in public what the CIA used to do in private -- providing money and moral support for pro-democracy groups, training resistance fighters, working to subvert communist rule. And, in contrast to many of the CIA's superannuated Cold Warriors, who tended to get tangled in their webs of secrecy, these overt operatives have been immensely successful.

There's an obvious lesson here for Gates, or whoever ends up heading the CIA. The old concept of covert action, which has gotten the agency into such trouble during the past 40 years, may be obsolete. Nowadays, sensible activities to support America's friends abroad (or undermine its enemies) are probably best done openly. That includes paramilitary operations such as supporting freedom fighters, which can be managed overtly by the Pentagon. And it includes political-support operations for pro-democracy activists, which may be best left to the new network of overt operators.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) thus has it half-right when he urges that the CIA be abolished. The main problem, contrary to what Moynihan says, is not with intelligence collection -- "spying," in its purest form. That part of the CIA needs to be strengthened, not cut.

What may need abolishing is the covert-action role that was awkwardly grafted onto the CIA's basic spying mission when the agency was created in 1947. The covert-action boys were known back then as the Office of Policy Coordination. It may be time, at last, to bid them adieu. They're obsolete. They've been privatized.

That's especially true in the realm of what used to be called "propaganda" and can now simply be called information. The CIA worked hard in the old days to draw foreign newspapers and magazines into its web, so as to counter Soviet disinformation. Frank Wisner, the head of CIA covert operations during the mid-1950s, once remarked that he could play his media assets like a "mighty Wurlitzer."

Today the mighty Wurlitzer actually exists. It's called CNN. But it doesn't need playing by anybody but the independent journalists who work there. CNN's objective, omnipresent, real-time coverage of the news helps America's interests more than all the besotted Third World "media assets" of old could ever have imagined. And the bar bills are less.

Allen Weinstein, the recipient of Yeltsin's faxes, is probably the dean of the new overt operatives. Like many of the people running the new nations of Eastern Europe, he's an ex-professor. He taught history at Smith College for 15 years and even worked for several months writing editorials for The Washington Post.

Weinstein's career as an overt operator dates back to 1980, when he joined Soviet dissidents in organizing a citizens' committee to monitor the Helsinki Accords on Human Rights. He quickly became connected with the network of pro-democracy activists who were then beginning to challenge anti-democratic regimes around the world. Soon he was sponsoring conferences for dissidents, arranging visits for them to the United States and otherwise making trouble.

"The networking phenomenon is one of the things we've specialized in," explains Weinstein. His visitors in those early days included some of the insurgents who were later to lead protest movements across Eastern Europe in 1989.

"People wander through your office," he says. "They become family."

Weinstein founded the Center for Democracy in 1984 as an umbrella for his global meddling. He dispatched election-monitoring teams to the Philippines, Panama and Nicaragua that are credited with having helped topple undemocratic regimes in those countries through the ballot box. By 1990, he was hosting meetings for newly elected Polish parliamentarians; for legislative clerks from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland; and for constitution-drafters from those three countries.

Trenchcoats and tradecraft were irrelevant to these gatherings. The key man in Weinstein's overt operation was the rapporteur. Boris Yeltsin and his aides were soon drawn into this transatlantic hospitality suite. They attended Weinstein's conferences, including one on environmental problems held in Moscow in early August, which was co-sponsored by Weinstein's center and the Russian republic. When the hard-liners launched their putsch a few days later, the Yeltsin aides naturally enough began sending faxes to their friend, Weinstein. The first one read simply: "It is military coup. Tanks are everywhere."

Now, with the KGB in retreat from Prague to Vladivostok, Weinstein has scheduled a conference in Sofia, Bulgaria on the topic: "The Proper Role of Intelligence Agencies in a Democracy." That may be rubbing it in.

Amazingly enough, these simple pro-democracy activities were once the exclusive province of the CIA. Back in the heyday of the Cold War, the wizards of Langley seemed to think it necessary to "recruit" the world's democrats and give them code names.

The covert mentality penetrated nearly every aspect of American life. The mandarins decided that American students should attend international conferences and youth festivals to counteract Soviet propaganda. So the CIA secretly began funding the National Student Association. Anti-communist intellectuals in Europe were deemed worthy of aid, so the CIA subsidized the Congress for Cultural Freedom and Encounter magazine. It was decided that we should help democratic parties in Europe resist communist pressure. The CIA did it covertly.

No activity was so innocent that the CIA didn't think it could be improved by secrecy.

Even Gloria Steinem, now a feminist leader, was drawn into the CIA covert web. According to CIA historian John Ranelagh, she was involved in a CIA operation to send American students to World Youth festivals in Vienna in 1959 and Helsinki in 1962.

When these covert activities surfaced (as they inevitably did), the fallout was devastating. The CIA connection, intended to protect people and organizations from public embarrassment, had precisely the opposite effect.

"A lot of what we do today was done covertly 25 years ago by the CIA," agrees Weinstein. The biggest difference is that when such activities are done overtly, the flap potential is close to zero.

Openness is its own protection.

Allen Weinstein is just one of many overt operatives who helped prepare the way for the political miracles of the past two years by sponsoring exchanges and other contacts with liberal reformers from the East. It's worth naming a few more of them, to show the breadth of this movement for democracy: William Miller of the American Committee on U.S.-Soviet Relations; financier George Soros of the Soros Foundation; John Mroz of the Center for East-West Security Studies; John Baker of the Atlantic Council; and Harriett Crosby of the Institute for Soviet-American Relations. This has truly been a revolution by committee.

The AFL-CIO also deserves a healthy pat on the back. Working mostly in the open, it helped keep the Polish trade union Solidarity alive in the dark days of martial law during the early 1980s. As the AFL-CIO's Adrian Karatnycky wrote in these pages two years ago, American trade unions and the U.S. Congress provided millions of dollars to the Solidarity underground.

"The money underwrote shipments of scores of printing presses, dozens of computers, hundreds of mimeograph machines, thousands of gallons of printers' ink, hundreds of thousands of stencils, video cameras and radio broadcasting equipment," according to Karatnycky.

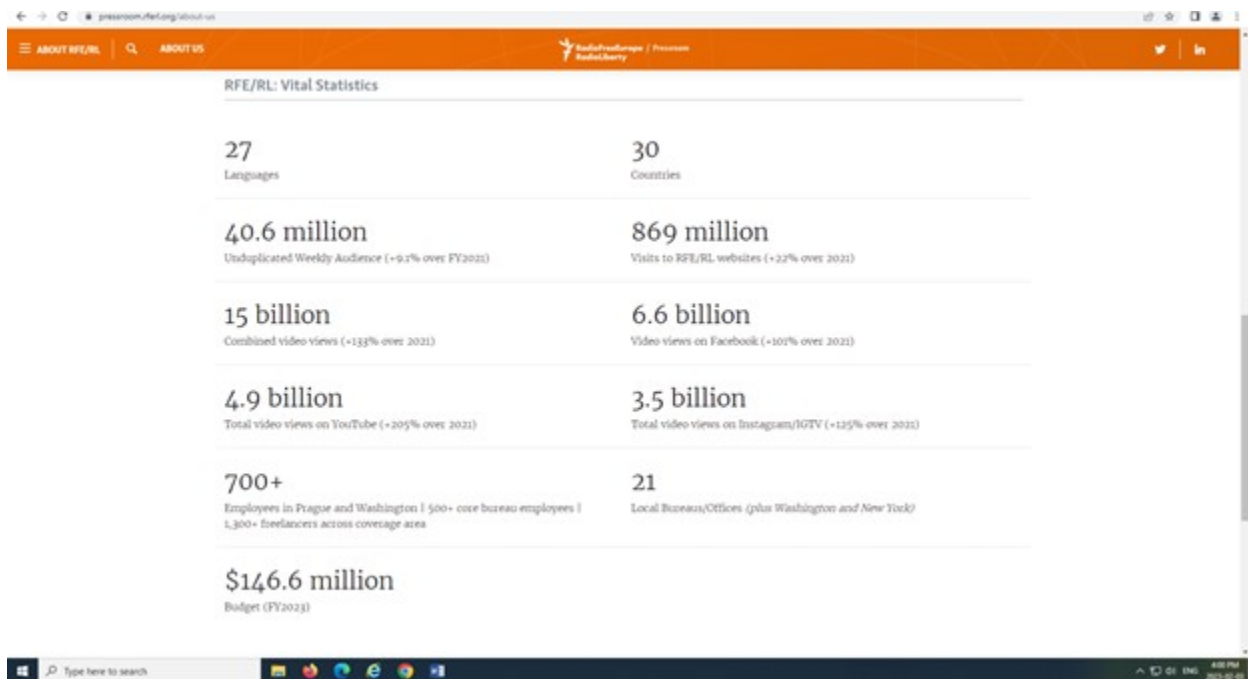
The sugar daddy of overt operations has been the National Endowment for Democracy, a quasi-private group headed by Carl Gershman that is funded by the U.S. Congress. Through the late 1980s, it did openly what had once been unspeakably covert -- dispensing money to anti-communist forces behind the Iron Curtain.

To read through the NED's grant list (a public document) is to take a stroll down the democracy movement's memory lane: In Czechoslovakia, the endowment began aiding democratic forces in 1984, including support for Civic Forum; in Hungary, the aid began in 1986 and included election help and funding for Hungary's first independent public-opinion survey; in Romania and Bulgaria, the endowment has supported new intellectual journals and other tools of democracy. Among its many activities in Poland, the endowment has backed the Gdansk Video Center, which helped produce and distribute pro-democracy videos throughout Eastern Europe during the 1980s. And through the Free Trade Union Institute and the Center for International Private Enterprise, the endowment helped support new unions and employers' associations across Eastern Europe -- building the infrastructure of a free economy.

The endowment has also been active inside the Soviet Union. It has given money to Soviet trade unions; to the liberal "Interregional Group" in the Congress of Peoples Deputies; to a foundation headed by Russian activist Ilya Zaslavsky; to an Oral History Project headed by Soviet historian Yuri Afanasyev; to the Ukrainian independence movement known as Rukh, and to many other projects.

Covert funding for these groups would have been the kiss of death, if discovered. Overt funding, it would seem, has been a kiss of life. David Ignatius is foreign editor of The Washington Post and author of "Siro," a spy novel.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) is a [United States](#) government funded organization that broadcasts and reports news, information, and analysis to countries in [Eastern Europe](#), [Central Asia](#), [Caucasus](#), and the [Middle East](#) where it says that "the free flow of information is either banned by government authorities or not fully developed".^{[6][7]} RFE/RL is a private, non-profit [501\(c\)\(3\)](#) corporation supervised by the [U.S. Agency for Global Media](#), an independent government agency overseeing all U.S. federal government international broadcasting services.^[8] Jeremy Bransten is acting editor-in-chief of RFE.^[9]



radio free europe, that united states funded news station with billions of listeners and decades of operations, was said to be used by

student protestors during the hungarian revolution of 1956

<https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldhistory2/chapter/the-hungarian-uprising/#:~:text=The%20Hungarian%20Revolution%20of%201956%20or,and%20violence%20erupted%20throughout%20the%20capital.>

The revolt spread quickly across Hungary and the government collapsed. Thousands organized into militias, battling the ÁVH and Soviet troops. Pro-Soviet communists and ÁVH members were often executed or imprisoned and former political prisoners were released and armed. Radical impromptu workers' councils wrested municipal control from the ruling Hungarian Working People's Party and demanded political changes. A new government formally disbanded the ÁVH, declared its intention to withdraw from the Warsaw Pact, and pledged to re-establish free elections. By the end of October, fighting had almost stopped and a sense of normality began to return.

After announcing a willingness to negotiate a withdrawal of Soviet forces, the Politburo changed its mind and moved to crush the revolution. On November 4, a large Soviet force invaded Budapest and other regions of the country. The Hungarian resistance continued until November 10. More than 2,500 Hungarians and 700 Soviet troops were killed in the conflict, and 200,000 Hungarians fled as refugees. Mass arrests and denunciations continued for months thereafter. By January 1957, the new Soviet-installed government had suppressed all public opposition. These Soviet actions, while strengthening control over the Eastern Bloc, alienated many Western Marxists, leading to splits and/or considerable losses of membership for Communist Parties in the West.

Public discussion about this revolution was suppressed in Hungary for more than 30 years. Since the thaw of the 1980s, it has been a subject of intense study and debate. At the inauguration of the Third Hungarian Republic in 1989, October 23 was declared a national holiday.

Hungarian Uprising: Flag of Hungary, with the communist coat of arms cut out. The flag with a hole became the symbol of the revolution.

Background

Hungary became a communist state under the severely authoritarian leadership of Mátyás Rákosi. Under Rákosi's reign, the Security Police (ÁVH) began a series of purges, first within the Communist Party to end opposition to Rákosi's reign. The victims were labeled as "Titoists," "western agents," or "Trotskyists" for as insignificant a crime as spending time in the West to participate in the Spanish Civil War. In total, about half of all the middle and lower level party officials—at least 7,000 people—were purged.

From 1950 to 1952, the Security Police forcibly relocated thousands of people to obtain property and housing for the Working People's Party members and to remove the threat of the intellectual and "bourgeois" class.

Thousands were arrested, tortured, tried, and imprisoned in concentration camps, deported to the east, or executed, including ÁVH founder László Rajk. In a single year, more than 26,000 people were forcibly relocated from Budapest. As a consequence, jobs and housing were very difficult to obtain. The deportees generally experienced terrible living conditions and were interned as slave labor on collective farms. Many died as a result of poor living conditions and malnutrition.

The Rákosi government thoroughly politicized Hungary's educational system to supplant the educated classes with a "toiling intelligentsia." Russian language study and Communist political instruction were made mandatory in schools and universities nationwide. Religious schools were nationalized and church leaders were replaced by those loyal to the government. In 1949 the leader of the Hungarian Catholic Church, Cardinal József Mindszenty, was arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment for treason. Under Rákosi, Hungary's government was among the most repressive in Europe.

Middle east, war: nov29 The Moroccan state sealed the deal as a [patriotic diplomatic' step](#) that serves its interests in the Western Sahara conflict, as the US recognised Morocco's sovereignty over the disputed territory in exchange for normalisation with Israel.

Russia, war: nov29 Russia: missile strikes have been no closer than 35 km from the Polish border

Nov 16 (Reuters) - Russia said an explosion in Poland on Tuesday had been caused by a Ukrainian air defence missile and that Russian strikes in Ukraine had been no closer than 35 km (22 miles) from the Polish border.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-says-its-strikes-ukraine-were-no-closer-than-35km-polish-border-2022-11-16/>

history, fall of rome, holy roman empire: read later: Late antiquity, ime of transition from classical antiquity to the Middle Ages, spanning the 4th-6th century in Europe

Late antiquity is the time of transition from [classical antiquity](#) to the [Middle Ages](#), generally spanning the 4th–6th century in [Europe](#) and adjacent areas bordering the [Mediterranean Basin](#). The popularization of this [periodization](#) in English has generally been credited to historian [Peter Brown](#), after the publication of his seminal work [The World of Late Antiquity](#) (1971). Precise boundaries for the period are a continuing matter of debate, but Brown proposes a period between the 3rd and 8th centuries AD. Generally, it can be thought of as from the end of the [Roman Empire's Crisis of the Third Century](#) (235–284) to the [early Muslim conquests](#) (622–750), or as roughly contemporary with the [Sasanian Empire](#) (224–651). In the West its end was earlier, with the start of the [Early Middle Ages](#) typically placed in the 6th century, or earlier on the edges of the [Western Roman Empire](#).

Censorship, war, middle east: nov29 massive pr nightmare from 2009--potential german Cui bono indicating potential infighting within NATO, which youd assume should happen considering they are fierce cmpetitors. Allies, but still competitors

There were hellish scenes at the hospital in Kunduz, the provincial capital, about 15 miles north of the village. "Wounded people with extensive burns crowded a hospital in Kunduz," the French news agency AFP reported. "An AFP reporter said around eight were in terrible condition— the skin burnt black and peeling off to expose raw red muscle. Others were silent in agony with incinerated clothes stuck to their flesh."

"'Nobody was in one piece. Hands, legs, and body parts were scattered everywhere. Those who were away from the fuel tanker were badly burnt,' said 32-year-old Mohammad Daud, depicting a scene from hell. The burned-out shells of the tankers, still smoking in marooned wrecks on the riverbank, were surrounded by the charred-meat remains of villagers from Chahar Dara district in Kunduz province, near the Tajik border. Dr. Farid Rahid, a spokesperson in Kabul for the ministry of health, said up to 250 villagers had been near the tankers when the air strike was called in."

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-afghanistan-village-sb-idUSTRE58356F20090904>
<https://original.antiwar.com/roberts/2009/09/06/us-hypocrisy-astonishes/>

stats, war: THE 700 MILITARY BASES OF AFGHANISTAN nov29

https://fpif.org/the_700_military_bases_of_afghanistan/

middle east, war: current example of the destruction of war

598,000 homes, 182 university facilities, and 1,679 mosques, in addition to 379 tourist facilities, and 415 hospitals and health facilities have been destroyed by the Saudi-led forces

resstvdotir/Detail/2022/11/28/693526/Number-of-displaced-in-Yemen-exceeded-5-million-report-

middle east, censorship, media: nov29 gaddafi giving out viagra and condoms (fake story)

<http://archive.indianexpress.com/news/gaddafi-troops-given-viagra-to-rape-us/783345/>

censorship, war, middle east: nov29 Iran giving out condoms for criminals to rape us, say jailed activists

Prison guards in [Iran](#) are giving condoms to criminals and encouraging them to systematically rape young opposition activists locked up with them, according to accounts from inside the country's jail system.

guardian circulated story about police using rape as an interrogation tactic for men as young as 18

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/jun/24/jailed-iran-opposition-activists-rape>

"They gave us warm water to drink and one meal a day. Repeated smacking was a regular punishment. In interrogations, they kept on asking if I was instructed from abroad. I believed I was going to be sent from the detention centre to prison. But they sent me to where they called Roughnecks' Room. There were some other youths of my age in there. I asked a guard why I am not sent to prison and the reply was: 'You have to be our guest for a while.'

"I refused to confess during interrogations. They said: 'Ask your friends what we'll do to you if you don't co-operate.' Others in the room were also arrested on 15 June. I was tempted to confess at this point but I didn't. On the third and fourth day, they beat me up again. They insisted we were instructed from abroad. I kept on saying we were only protesting for our votes.

"It was on Saturday or Sunday that they raped me for the first time. There were three or four huge guys we had not seen before. They came to me and tore my clothes. I tried to resist but two of them laid me on the floor and the third did it. It was done in front of four other detainees.

"My cell mates, especially the older one, tried to console me. They said nobody loses his dignity through such an act. They did it to two other cell mates in the next days. Then it became a routine. We were so weak and beaten up that could not do anything.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2009/jul/01/iran-protest-arrests-afshin-friend>

iran, middle east, islam: iranian top officials openly promote archiac ideas with regards ot the role of women in society; says woman can't even go to a funeral without husbands permission, 1988

IRAN AND THE SLAVERY OF WOMEN

By **JACK ANDERSON** and
DALE VAN ATTA

December 21, 1988

The brains of women are smaller than the brains of men and that's why men are the rulers and women are the housekeepers. It's true. Just ask Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian parliament. He is the man the Reagan administration considers to be the moderate hope of a dissolute Iran.

Rafsanjani opined on the shortcomings of the female in a prayer sermon: "A man's brain is larger. Women mature too fast. The breathing power of men's lungs is greater and women's heartbeats are faster Men heed reasoning and logic, whereas most women tend to be emotional Courage and daring are stronger in men."

When Rafsanjani speaks, others follow. Hadi Khameini, the brother of Iranian president Ali Khameini and a parliamentary deputy, likes the small-brain theory too. "The average size of a man's brain is larger than a woman's," he was quoted as saying in a Persian-language newspaper. "A man's nervous system is more resistant. He is less afraid and deals with danger more easily. A woman's feelings are less stable than a man's. A woman is more cautious, fearful, talkative and ceremonious than a man Women cannot compete with men in the rational sciences and problems of pure logic Abstaining from housework is dreadful torture for a woman."

War, middle east, history: More than one million people were killed during the brutal 1980-88 war between Iran and Iraq

<https://www.peoplesworld.org/article/iran-pursues-german-companies-that-gave-saddam-hussein-chemical-weapons/>

Erdogan, stats, middle east: nov28 kurds, pkk, turkey oppresses them I guess....

<https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/conflict-between-turkey-and-armed-kurdish-groups>

middle east , energy, war: nov28 Turkish involvement in the Syrian civil war (wikipedia)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_against_the_Islamic_State

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Iraq_offensive_\(August_2014\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Iraq_offensive_(August_2014))

middle east, erdogan, war, history: nov28 important quote

Mottaki has on occasion accused the US and Israel of conspiring to form an independent Kurdistan, uniting around 25 to 30 million ethnic Kurds living in Iraq, Turkey, Iran and Syria.

november 8th, 2007

crazy tensions, confirmed apparently by the israeli military....wow

<https://thecradle.co/Article/News/18918>

china, war, sanctions: nov28 first time fcc has banned tele equip from specified country

“Our unanimous decision represents the first time in the FCC’s history that we have voted to prohibit the authorization of communications and electronic equipment based on national security considerations,” FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr said in a statement on Friday.

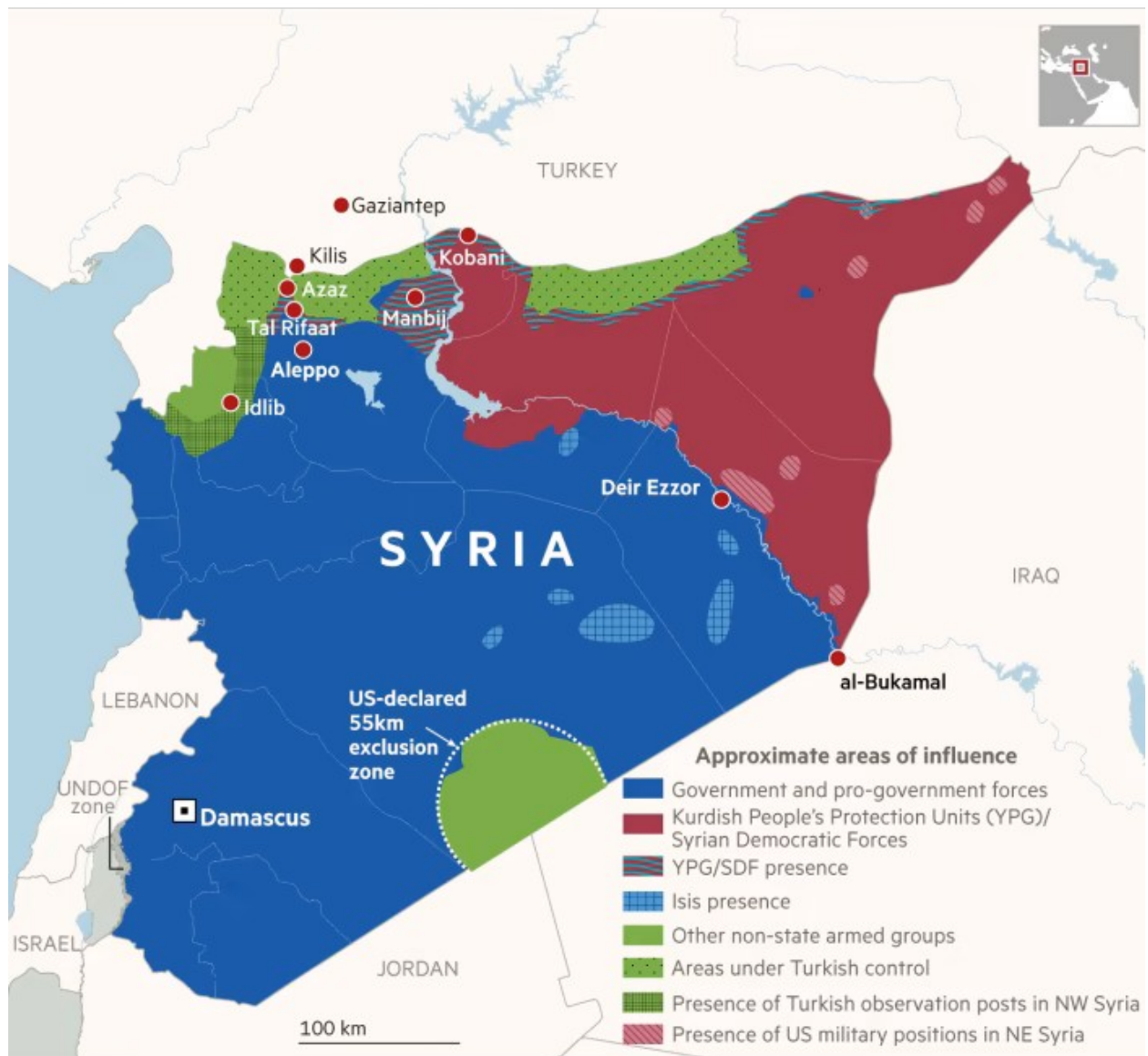
War, Africa: nov28 The US military operation in Somalia, explained

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/us-military-operation-somalia-explained>

middle east, Erdogan, war: nov28 picture of syrian control zones from ft, read later

Syria: spheres of influence

As of Dec 2021



Sources: OHCHR; Clingendael
© FT

It represents the largest Turkish footprint in an Arab state since the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in 1918 — and it could be about to get bigger as President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan warns that he wants to extend Ankara's control with a new offensive. If he follows through on his threats, it will heap more scrutiny on Turkey's long-term strategy and the role of foreign actors in Syria, after more than a decade of conflict in the Arab nation.

Backed by Russia, Iran and Iranian-aligned militias, Assad has regained control of much of the country but presides over a shattered nation. The remnants of the opposition have been driven to the north, where they rely on Turkey's military muscle and financial aid. In the north-east, Kurdish-led militias control more than a fifth of the country, with US support and the effective protection of about 800 American troops.

read rest here:

A Kurdish homeland

The YPG came to the fore as a fighting force during the battle of Kobani after Isis seized the predominantly Kurdish Syrian border town during the jihadis' blitz across Iraq and Syria in 2014. It became the US partner of choice to take the battle to Isis in northeastern Syria under the umbrella of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), an alliance of fighters dominated by the Kurdish militants that has been armed and trained by Washington.

In Ankara, Turkish officials watched with dismay as the Kurdish militias gained territory, weapons and international standing. Khalifa estimates that the SDF — which accuses Turkey of occupation — controls an army of 100,000 and runs a civil administration of a similar size.

Erdoğan first ordered troops across the border in 2016 in an offensive on the Syrian city of Jarablus, ostensibly to target Isis but also to pre-empt any advance by the Kurdish militants. That operation came weeks after Erdoğan survived a coup attempt and marked the beginning of a more assertive, interventionist foreign policy.

Ankara ordered similar offensives in 2018 and 2019, with Turkish forces fighting alongside their Syrian proxies.

Turkey launched a fourth operation in 2020 to reverse gains made by Assad forces around Idlib in the north-west, another opposition enclave home to 4mn people. Ankara has less control over Idlib, which is run by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, an Islamist movement that is designated a terrorist organisation

by Ankara and Washington. But Turkey is in effect the ultimate protector of the area.

Those clashes ended with Turkey and Russia reaching a ceasefire agreement and the main front lines have been stagnant since, underscoring the foreign actors' influence over the fate of millions of Syrians.

Today, Ankara has varying degrees of responsibility for more than 9mn Syrians, including the refugees inside Turkey, just under half the Arab state's prewar population.

Murat Yeşiltaş, an analyst at Seta, a Turkish-think tank with close links to Erdoğan and his government, estimates the Syria intervention is costing Ankara about \$2bn annually. Turkey has 4,000 to 5,000 troops inside the areas it controls and some 8,000 soldiers around Idlib, he adds.

He says Ankara is grappling with the contradiction between Turkey's professed desire for a unified Syria — not least to prevent any form of Kurdish state — while at the same time realising that "Turkey is . . . ultimately undermining the potential territorial integrity of Syria."

The options, he says, are direct rule, which would give Turkey greater scope to resolve the economic and security problems on the ground but would in effect be annexation; governing "behind the line," which would give Ankara influence without it being involved in any form of government; or exiting and putting its faith in a pro-Turkish local administration to maintain order.

At the moment, Turkey is pursuing a mix of the first two, Yeşiltaş says, adding: "If you are asking me who is the boss, of course Turkey is the boss."

He says the "current map" does not allow for an exit strategy, while suggesting that taking the northern cities of Tal Rifaat and Manbij would bolster Ankara's longer-term security and economic aims.

Any new operation would be rife with risks. There are reports that Russian-backed Assad fighters and Iranian-aligned militias have been mobilising around Manbij and Tal Rifaat. The Kurdish-dominated SDF has warned it would co-ordinate with Damascus to counter any offensive.

Despite its war in Ukraine, Turkish and western officials say there are few signs that Russia's posture in Syria has altered. A western diplomat puts the number of Russian troops at between 2,000 and 5,000, the key being air support to the Assad regime.

“For Russia, this [Syria] is a major success . . . and I don’t think they’re going to risk it and pull out,” says James Jeffrey, a former US ambassador to Turkey and former Syria envoy.

Russia’s intervention in Syria in 2015 not only tilted the war in Assad’s favour, it also bolstered Moscow’s influence in the Middle East and secured it naval and air bases in the Mediterranean.

Jeffrey also sees little prospect of the US pulling out any time soon, particularly after the debacle of its withdrawal from Afghanistan. He believes the status quo suits all the external actors if it maintains a fragile stability with frozen front lines. “They would rather live with this messy military commitment that doesn’t achieve anything other than block the other side from winning and creating more dangerous security situations for them,” he says. “That’s the calculus.”

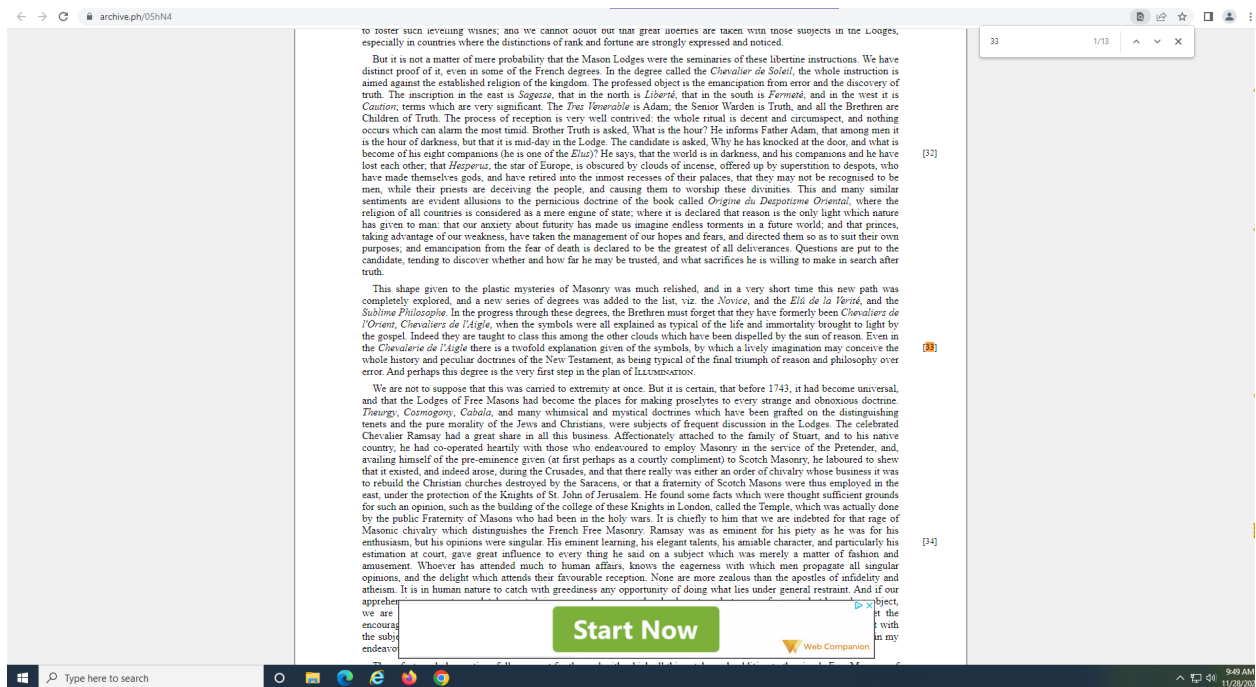
One thing that could change the calculus in Ankara is if the [opposition capitalises on Erdoğan’s waning popularity](#) to clinch victory in the upcoming elections. Most Turkish parties share the president’s concerns about Kurdish militias but criticise his decision to back the Syrian rebels. All the large parties have said that, if they win power, they would re-establish relations with Damascus, a move they say would be a prelude to sending Syrians home.

But experts argue that few refugees would return to a broken nation ruled by the despotic regime they fled. They add that Assad would be likely to demand the withdrawal of Turkish troops, raising the risk that border regions could again become a haven for Kurdish militias.

Either way, many Syrians believe Turkey is in for the long haul as they see no endgame to their country’s crisis.

“The situation will stay like this,” says Abdulghani Shobak, a Syrian opposition official. “The Syrians don’t have the decisions any more. The US has its say, and there is Russia, Iran and Turkey.”

journal, censorship, media: proofs of a conspiracy, search number 33, mentioned 13 times...weird



Erdogan, war, middle east: nov27 readlater

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019_Turkish_offensive_into_north-eastern_Syria

energy, stats, planet: nov27 large charging statiosn to require as much electricity as a small town by 2035 according to new report from National grid

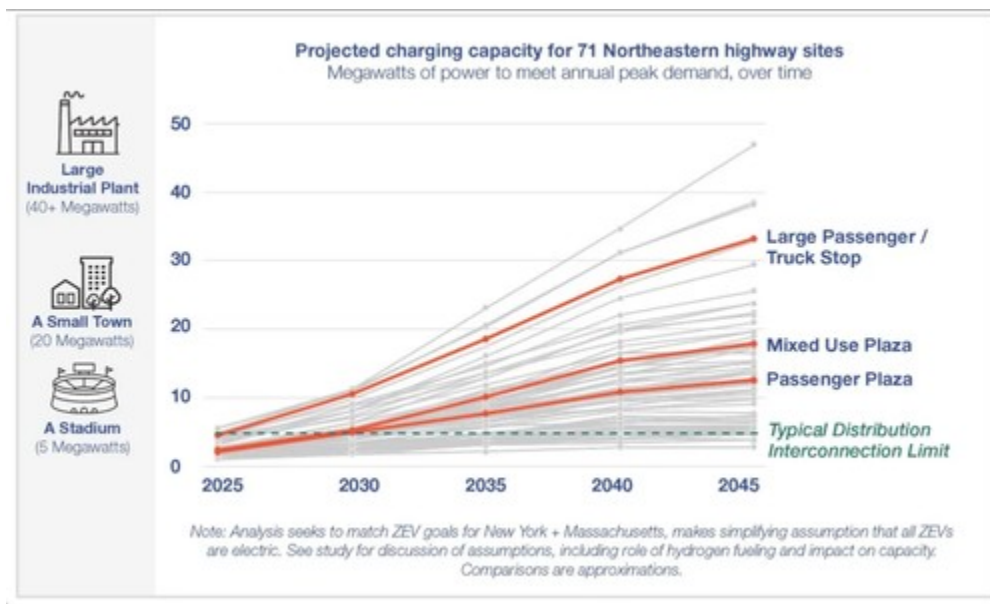
EV Charging Stations By 2035 Will Need More Power Than A Small Town

BY TYLER DURDEN

SUNDAY, NOV 27, 2022 - 12:00 AM

A new report from the electricity and gas utility National Grid (which serves parts of New York and Massachusetts) found a rapid increase in electric vehicles on the city streets and highways will require upgraded power grids to handle all the new demand. By 2035, a charging station could demand as much power as a sports arena or small town.

National Grid expects by 2035, large charging stations serving EVs, from SUVs and pickup trucks to delivery vans and semi-trucks, would require 19 megawatts of peak power -- that's approximately what a small town uses. In 2045, those large charging stations could demand upwards of 30 megawatts of capacity, with peak usage of a large manufacturing plant.



National Grid said current charging stations couldn't serve the EV demand of the future, indicating significant power-grid improvements would be needed. It said expanding the charging infrastructure would take time:

"Building these high-voltage interconnections and upgrades can take years, which is why it's important to take action right now."

"By making 'no-regrets' upgrades at 'no-regrets' sites, we can make sure fast-charging is there when drivers need it—and not a moment too late," the report said.

Today, the impact of EV charging on the grid is small, and there is enough excess capacity to handle the current fleet of cars, SUVs, vans, and pickup trucks.

As EV adoption expands, so will the electricity demand, and as we've noted, [nuclear power generation](#) will be the best form of on-demand clean energy. The White House understands nuclear is the future for a sustainable

clean grid, as they rush to secure a "[large amount](#)" of funding for a domestic uranium strategy.

Unreliable solar and wind won't be enough to power the Biden administration's ambitious plan for half of all new vehicles sold in 2030 to be electric. Meanwhile, California set a target of 2035 to phase out the sale of new gasoline-powered light-duty vehicles.

Momentum is certainly building to electrifying vehicle fleets. In doing so, increasing investments in zero-emission nuclear power production and sourcing uranium domestically will be the key to sustainably powering future EV demand.

Africa, stats, media, censorship: nov27 cool comment

Mali is no more a real country than Libya ever was – both are creations of European imperialism, which drew arbitrary borders in the Great Scramble and then left, leaving local tribes and clans to fight it out among themselves

Stats, media, history, sanctions, censorship: *"Gentlemen, I must speak from a higher and more truthful plane. It must be stated openly that, in effect, superior races have rights over inferior races."*

Jules Ferry, ***twice prime minister of France, from [1880-1881, 1883-1885].***

<https://web.viu.ca/davies/H479B.Imperialism.Nationalism/Ferry.Fr.imperialism.1884.htm>

middle east, history, erdogan: nov27, mostly suez, title includes info on algeria. started ths backwards. Sonatrach, Algerian oil company, is the largest company in Africa; most of algerian oil (2/3rds) is unexplored, they say

from 1882 to 1956, the british controlled the suez canal

[Israel](#)'s victory in the [Six-Day War](#) left the entirety of the Egyptian [Sinai Peninsula](#) up to the eastern bank of the Suez Canal under Israeli control.

<https://www.forbesmiddleeast.com/lists/top-100-ceos-in-the-middle-east-2022/osama-rabie/>

The **Suez Crisis**, or the **Second Arab-Israeli war**,^{[15][16][17]} also called the **Tripartite Aggression** ([Arabic](#): العدوان الثلاثي, [romanized](#): *Al-ʿUdwān at-Tulāṭiyy*) in the [Arab world](#)^[18] and the **Sinai War** in [Israel](#),^[19] was an invasion of [Egypt](#) in late 1956 by Israel, followed by the [United Kingdom](#) and [France](#). The aims were to regain control of the [Suez Canal](#) for the Western powers and to remove Egyptian president [Gamal Abdel Nasser](#), who had just swiftly^[20] [nationalised](#) the foreign-owned [Suez Canal Company](#), which administered the canal. Israel's primary objective was to re-open the blocked [Straits of Tiran](#).^[21] After the fighting had started, political pressure from the [United States](#), the [Soviet Union](#) and the [United Nations](#) led to a withdrawal by the three invaders. The episode humiliated the United Kingdom and France and strengthened Nasser.^{[22][23][24]}

On 26 July 1956, Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal Company, which prior to that was owned primarily by British and French shareholders. On 29 October, Israel invaded the Egyptian [Sinai](#). Britain and France issued a joint ultimatum to cease fire, which was ignored. On 5 November, Britain and France landed [paratroopers](#) along the Suez Canal. Before the Egyptian forces were defeated, they had blocked the canal to all shipping by sinking 40 ships in the canal. It later became clear that Israel, France and Britain had conspired to plan the invasion. The three allies had attained a number of their military objectives, but the canal was useless. Heavy political pressure from the United States and the USSR led to a withdrawal. U.S. president [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) had strongly warned Britain not to invade; he threatened serious damage to the British financial system by selling the U.S. government's [pound sterling](#) bonds. Historians conclude the crisis "signified the end of Great Britain's role as one of the world's major powers".^{[25][26][27]}
^[page needed]

In 1978, Sadat and [Menachem Begin](#), Prime Minister of Israel, signed a peace treaty in cooperation with United States President [Jimmy Carter](#), for which they were recognized with the [Nobel Peace Prize](#).

As President, he led Egypt in the [Yom Kippur War](#) of 1973 to regain Egypt's [Sinai Peninsula](#), which [Israel](#) had occupied since the [Six-Day War](#) of 1967, making him a hero in Egypt and, for a time, the wider [Arab World](#). first [Muslim](#) Nobel laureate at the time.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anwar_Sadat

The **Convention of Constantinople**^{[3][4]} is a [treaty](#) concerning the use of the [Suez Canal](#) in [Egypt](#). It was signed on 29 October 1888 by the [United Kingdom](#), [Germany](#), [Austria-Hungary](#), [Spain](#), [France](#), [Italy](#), the [Netherlands](#), the [Russian Empire](#), and the [Ottoman Empire](#). The [Khedivate of Egypt](#), through whose territory the Canal ran, and to whom all shares in the [Suez Canal Company](#) were due to revert when the company's 99-year lease to manage the Canal expired, was not invited to participate in the negotiations, and did not sign the treaty.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convention_of_Constantinople

middle east, stats, history, Erdogan: eye opening

John Pilger summed up the past 8 years of Obama by writing, “according to a Council on Foreign Relations survey, in 2016 alone Obama dropped 26,171 bombs. That is 72 bombs every day. He bombed the poorest people on earth, in Afghanistan, Libya, Yemen, Somalia, Syria, Iraq, Pakistan.

“Every Tuesday - reported The New York Times - he personally selected those who would be murdered by mostly hellfire missiles fired from drones. Weddings, funerals, shepherds were attacked, along with those attempting to collect the body parts festooning the “terrorist target.”

Crypto, sanctions, stats: read later: logistics future blockchain increases trust (pay first, free on board, etc.)

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/10/this-is-what-the-future-of-logistics-looks-like/>

<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/f/fob.asp>

learned about forfeiting from trying to investigate wtf happened with this company after it, as it says explicitly in article - amazing how we forget - spiked 1000% in 2 days for what seemed to everybody no f'ing reason.

“The tiny, little known stock first caught Wall Street’s attention in mid-December. Shares soared well over [1,000 percent](#) in two days after Longfin announced it was buying Ziddu. A filing showed the microlending company was purchased from a private Singapore firm

called Meridian Enterprises that is 95 percent owned by Longfin CEO Meenavalli.”

In the U.S., forfaiting is mainly used by established large and medium-sized corporations that export capital goods and commodities on transactions exceeding \$100,000. Forfaiting can also offer opportunities in markets considered high-risk.

Most forfaiting transactions will have a maturity ranging between 180 days and seven years, the payment period for foreign buyers of U.S. exports. Forfaiters, not U.S. exporters, are responsible for collecting payments from foreign buyers.

tradedotgov/forfaiting

history, Russia: Circassian genocide

The **Circassian genocide**,^{[3][4][5][6][7]} or **Tsitsekun**,^{[a][b]} was the [Russian Empire](#)'s systematic mass murder, ethnic cleansing, and expulsion of 80–97%^{[3][7]} of the [Circassian](#) population, around 800,000–1,500,000 people,^{[3][4][5]} during and after the [Russo-Circassian War](#) (1763–1864).^{[1][9][10]} The peoples planned for removal were mainly the Circassians, but other Muslim peoples of the Caucasus were also affected.^[9] Several methods used by Russian forces such as impaling and tearing the bellies of pregnant women were reported.^{[1][11]} Russian generals such as [Grigory Zass](#) described the Circassians as "subhuman filth", and glorified the mass murder of Circassian civilians,^{[1][12][13]} justified their use in scientific experiments,^[14] and allowed their soldiers to rape women.^[1]

During the Russo-Circassian War, the Russian Empire employed a genocidal strategy of massacring Circassian civilians. Only a small percentage who accepted [Russification](#) and resettlement within the Russian Empire were completely spared. The remaining Circassian population who refused were variously dispersed or killed en masse.^[15] Circassian villages would be located and burnt, systematically starved, or their entire population massacred.^[3] [Leo Tolstoy](#) reported that Russian soldiers would attack village houses at night.^[16] William Palgrave, a British diplomat who witnessed the events, adds that "their only crime was not being Russian".^[17] In 1864, "[A Petition from Circassian leaders to Her Majesty Queen Victoria](#)" was signed by the Circassians requesting humanitarian aid from the [British Empire](#).^{[18][19][20]} In the same year, mass deportation was launched against the surviving population before the end of the war in 1864 and it was mostly completed by 1867.^[21] Some died from epidemics or starvation among the crowds of deportees and were reportedly eaten by dogs after their death.^[17] Others died when the ships underway sank during storms.^[22]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circassian_genocide

vaccine, health, government, war, censorship: nov25 **academic freedom is dead, says stanford professor of medicine and 3 year professor at rand corporation (1998-2001)**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jay_Bhattacharya

"If Stanford really truly were committed to academic freedom, they would have... worked to make sure that there were debates and discussions, seminars, where these ideas were discussed among faculty," he urged, adding that "power replaced the idea of truth as the guiding light."

Anti-Lockdown Stanford Professor: "Academic Freedom Is Dead"

BY TYLER DURDEN

FRIDAY, NOV 25, 2022 - 03:15 PM

[Authored by Steve Watson via Summit News.](#)

A Stanford Professor who challenged the orthodoxy of lockdowns has warned that "academic freedom is dead," and that all those who have stood up to the regime narrative now face "a deeply hostile work environment."

Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, an author of the [Great Barrington Declaration](#) in which thousands of scientists called for a policy of herd immunity over lockdowns, warned that "When you take a position that is at odds with the scientific clerisy, your life becomes a living hell."

Speaking at the Academic Freedom Conference at Stanford's Graduate School of Business recently, Bhattacharya, who previously described lockdowns as the [most catastrophically harmful policy in "all of history,"](#) and ["the single worst public health mistake in the last 100 years,"](#) noted "we have a high clerisy that declares from on high what is true and what is not true."

Watch:

In a further [interview with Fox News](#), Bhattacharya noted "The basic premise is that if you don't have protection and academic freedom in the hard cases, when a faculty member has an idea that's unpopular among some of the other faculty – powerful faculty, or even the administration ... If they don't protect it in that case, then you don't have academic freedom at all."

Bhattacharya and thousands of other academics and scientists were initially vilified for damning lockdowns, but have since been vindicated as the [societal](#) and [medical](#) toll of the shutdowns has been revealed.

Bhattacharya said of the declaration, ***“The purpose of the one-page document was aimed at telling the public that there was not a scientific consensus in favor of lockdown, that in fact many epidemiologists, many doctors, many other people - prominent people - disagreed with the consensus.”***

The professor then described how proponents of the declaration were systematically frozen out of discussions and debates.

“If Stanford really truly were committed to academic freedom, they would have... worked to make sure that there were debates and discussions, seminars, where these ideas were discussed among faculty,” he urged, adding that ***“power replaced the idea of truth as the guiding light.”***

“So you have somebody like Tony Fauci who says unironically, that if you question me, you’re not simply questioning a man, [you’re questioning science itself](#),” Bhattacharya further noted, adding “That is an exercise of raw power, where he places himself effectively as the pope of science rather than a genuine desire to learn the truth.”

“They systematically tried to make it seem like everyone agreed with their ideas about COVID policy, when in fact there was deep disagreement among scientists and epidemiologists about the right strategy,” the professor asserted.

Bhattacharya has also called on new Twitter owner Elon Musk to “expose the government censorship regime,”:

Bhattacharya’s comments come as a new analysis of federal and state data revealed that for the first time a majority of Americans dying from COVID were at least partially vaccinated.

“Fifty-eight percent of coronavirus deaths in August were people who were vaccinated or boosted,” [the Washington Post reports](#) in a piece headlined ‘Covid is no longer mainly a pandemic of the unvaccinated’.

History, stats **leon hess was jewish lithuanian, part of the eastern jewish diaspora per se...interesting**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leon_Hess

history, Germany, war: jews, poland, most jews in eastern europe; nazi germany at its height composed almost all of europe

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/jewish-population-of-europe-in-1933-population-data-by-country>

https://www.reddit.com/r/MapPorn/comments/23xw7j/map_of_europe_at_the_height_of_nazi_german/



Journal, war, Russia: "missile shield", antiwar, read later use key word

History, holy roman, empire, Germany, church: pope, germans: read later

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_and_state_in_medieval_Europe

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Investiture_Controversy

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King_of_the_Romans

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/House_of_Habsburg

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austria-Hungary>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lands_of_the_Bohemian_Crown

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudeten_Germans

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudetenland>

war, history, Germany: Munich Betrayal

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munich_Agreement

history, holy roman empire: The **Holy Roman Empire**^[17] since 1512 also the **Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation**, was a [political entity](#)^[18] in [Western](#), [Central](#) and [Southern Europe](#) that developed during the [Early Middle Ages](#) and continued until its [dissolution in 1806](#) during the [Napoleonic Wars](#).^[19]

On 25 December 800, [Pope Leo III](#) crowned the [Frankish king Charlemagne](#) as [emperor](#), reviving the title in [Western Europe](#), more than three centuries after the [fall](#) of the earlier ancient [Western Roman Empire](#) in 476

The title was revived again in 962 when [Otto I](#), King of Germany, was crowned emperor by [Pope John XII](#), fashioning himself as the successor of Charlemagne^[29] and beginning a continuous existence of the empire for over eight centuries.^{[30][31][e]} Some historians refer to the coronation of Charlemagne as the origin of the empire,^{[32][33]} while others prefer the coronation of Otto I as its beginning.^{[34][35]} [Henry the Fowler](#), the founder of the [medieval German state](#) (ruled 919–936),^[36] has sometimes been considered the founder of the Empire as well.^[37] The modern view favours Otto as the true founder.^[38] Scholars generally concur in relating an evolution of the institutions and principles constituting the empire, describing a gradual assumption of the imperial title and role.^[39]
^[32]

The exact term "Holy Roman Empire" was not used until the 13th century,^[40] but the Emperor's legitimacy always rested on the concept of *translatio imperii*, that he held supreme power inherited from the ancient emperors of Rome.^[39] The imperial office was traditionally elective through the mostly German *prince-electors*.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holy_Roman_Empire

government, stats: **commonwealth info**

Under the [Balfour Declaration of 1926](#), *dominions* were proclaimed as considered "equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown"^{[22][6][23][24][25][26]} and the monarch is "equally, officially, and explicitly [monarch] of separate, autonomous realms".^{[6][23][27][25]} Andrew Michie wrote in 1952 that "Elizabeth II embodies in her own person many monarchies: she is Queen of Great Britain, but she is equally Queen of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, and Ceylon... it is now possible for Elizabeth II to be, in practice as well as theory, equally Queen in all her realms."^[28] Still, Boyce holds the contrary opinion that the crowns of all the non-British realms are "derivative, if not subordinate" to the crown of the United Kingdom.^[29]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commonwealth_realm

war, middle east, energy: important links , read later

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iran%E2%80%93Israel_proxy_conflict

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Lebanon_conflict_\(1985%E2%80%932000\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Lebanon_conflict_(1985%E2%80%932000))

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_September

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hashemites>

middle east, war, stats: kurdistan region only recognized after saddam was assassinated on live television

The Iraqi High Tribunal sentenced Saddam Hussein and two others to death in November for the killing of 148 men and boys from the town of Dujail in 1982. The tribunal's statute prohibits, contrary to international law, the possibility of commuting a death sentence. It also requires that the execution take place within 30 days of the final appeal.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20070104080629/http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/12/30/iraq14950.htm>

war, middle east: houthis took credit for the missile strike on saudi arabia in sept 2019

The Houthis took credit for the September 14th drone attack on Saudi oil facilities that crippled the kingdom's oil output. Both the U.S. and Saudis blamed Iran for the attack, and the U.S. responded by sending a few hundred troops and some military equipment to Saudi Arabia.

newsdotantiwardotcom/2019/09/28/yemens-houthis-claim-an-assault-on-southern-saudi-arabia/

stats, tech, censorship: nov24 china unveils super camera that can pin point a face out of 10 000 people, something people probably wouldn't blink an eye at today

The massive videos and images captured by the camera can also be uploaded to a cloud data center.

Due to the "ultra-long distance" and "high-definition imaging" characteristics, the camera aroused personal privacy concerns, Zeng said.

Zeng called for laws and regulations to standardize the application of the camera.

<http://www.ecns.cn/news/sci-tech/2019-09-23/detail-ifzpefys6628597.shtml>

iran, sanctions ,war: maximum pressure

Recent data from the IMF shows why this theory was persuasive. The IMF's most recent "[Regional Economic Outlook: Middle East and Central Asia](#)," reports that Iran's "Gross Official Reserves" fell from an average of \$70 billion in 2000-2017, and \$122.5 billion in 2018, to \$12.4 billion in 2019 and an [amazing \\$4 billion in 2020](#). At that level Iran was on a rough par with countries such as Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Armenia, and Georgia. By contrast, in 2020 Algeria had \$46.7 billion in reserves, Iraq had \$54.1 billion, Libya \$51 billion--and Afghanistan \$8.6 billion, twice as much as Iran.

[cfrdotorg/blog/did-maximum-pressure-campaign-against-iran-fail](#)

nov24 turkey usually supports syrian army against rebels

Turkey's rebels aren't directly aligned with al-Qaeda, but they also aren't fighting, and during times of Syrian offensives, Turkey tends to support whoever Syria is fighting.

[newsdotantiwardotcom/2019/09/26/military-buildup-in-northern-syria-reinforcements-head-to-front-line](#)

media, stats: marital rape has been considered legal in the Commonwealth up until the

"The husband cannot be guilty of a rape committed by himself upon his lawful wife, for by their mutual consent and contract the wife hath given up herself in this kind unto her husband, which she cannot retract."

<https://www.pepysdiary.com/encyclopedia/5639/>

age of consent for canada was raised from 14 to 16.....in 2008....

wtf..The last time the law was changed was in the year 1890, when it was raised from 12 to 14..

<https://web.archive.org/web/20110505222100/http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/LOP/researchpublications/prb993-e.htm>

stats, war, sanctions: nice wikipedia of a client state

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Client_state

media, war: nov24 top french editorial says ukraine is a worse crisis than ehtiopia or even haiti

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https://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2022/11/24/la-guerre-en-ukraine-est-un-rouleau-compresseur-qui-ecrase-d-autres-situations-de-crise-comme-celles-en-ethiopie-ou-en-haiti_6151423_3210.html

https://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2022/11/24/la-guerre-en-ukraine-est-un-rouleau-compresseur-qui-ecrase-d-autres-situations-de-crise-comme-celles-en-ethiopie-ou-en-haiti_6151423_3210.html

•

“The war in Ukraine is a steamroller that crushes other crisis situations like those in Ethiopia or Haiti”

[Chronic](#)

Jean-Philippe Remy

The Ethiopian conflict and the Haitian crisis are relegated to limited visibility, notes, in his column, Jean-Philippe Rémy, head of the International Service of the "World".

Posted today at 12:45 p.m., updated at 12:45 p.m. Time toReading 3 mins.

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- More options More options
 - o More options
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Article reserved for subscribers

There are so many ways to tell about the war, its bravery, its horrors. The one raging in Ukraine is no exception: a large disparate narrative is bubbling there, against a backdrop of geopolitical changes and global concerns. This war is also, like any major crisis, a steamroller crushing any form of alternative attention.

Read also: Article reserved for our subscribers [Ethiopia: in Lalibela, life to the rhythm of the civil war](#)

Elsewhere in the world, other crisis situations are relegated to limited visibility by this high-stakes, high-spectacle machine. A civil war in northern Ethiopia has been going on behind closed doors for two years. Is it over? Hardly anyone outside the region bothered to make sure. The fate of a nation of over 100 million people depends on it. The conflict that tears it apart may have resulted in the deaths of 100,000 people. Or even double. Figures of an order of magnitude comparable to that of the estimates of military losses on both sides in Ukraine.

In a different genre, a country collapses on itself in a slow motion to which no one seems to pay the attention it deserves. This country is Haiti. Tiny progress has been made there recently, which speaks to the ordeal the Caribbean nation is going through. In early November, [a series of police operations, equipped with new armor, drove the coalition of G9 gangs](#) - whose figurehead is the former police officer Jimmy Chérizier, known as "Barbecue" - from the entrance to the terminal. oil tanker in Varreux, Haiti's main access point for fuel. Tanker trucks under strong escort began to supply gradually Port-au-Prince, the capital, then the rest of the regions, after two months of shortage.

"Our country is on the verge of collapse"

Unblocking the terminal will not solve all the ills from which the country suffers, where more than a hundred gangs are now active. A new cholera epidemic is gaining momentum. The armed gangs, partly responsible for this situation, are indifferent to it. However, these gangs are not neighborhood banditry, even aggravated. For a long time, hoodlums have served Haitian political leaders, from the "tontons macoutes" of President Duvalier, to the "chiméras" of Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

"During the last three decades, some politicians have dealt with gangs and armed groups in the context of political mobilizations, campaigns and electoral operations, repression of protest movements", summarizes the professor at the University of State of Haiti Jhon Picard Byron in a column published by *AlterPresse*, August 27. On election days, thugs are used to direct the voting of entire neighborhoods. But, for ten years and the coming

to power of [Michel Martelly \(2011-2016\)](#) , everything has exploded: the power of these gangs, corruption, attacks against institutions.

You have 50.85% of this article left to read. The following is for subscribers only.

History, stats nov24 Couscous connection

brother of tunisian dictator with no political opposition charged in absentia for being part of an international drug trafficking ring involved in money laundering...

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Couscous_connection

middle east, war, history: arab spring, yemen, sept 18th, 2019 front page

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yemeni_Revolution

antiwardotcom/past/20190919.html

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Houthi_movement

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abqaiq%E2%80%93Khurais_attack

energy, china, stats: turkmenistan is chinese natgas

In December 2009 the first line, Line A, of the [Trans-Asia](#) pipeline to China opened, creating a second major market for Turkmen natural gas. By 2015 Turkmenistan was delivering up to 35 billion cubic meters per annum (bcm) to China.^[125] China is the largest buyer of gas from Turkmenistan, via three pipelines linking the two countries through Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. In 2019, China bought over 30bcm of gas from Turkmenistan,^{[126][127]} making China Turkmenistan's main external source of revenue.^[128]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkmenistan#Natural_gas_and_export_routes

markets, government: nov23 they already did it in China with baba's makeover their fintec industry. chinese government forced

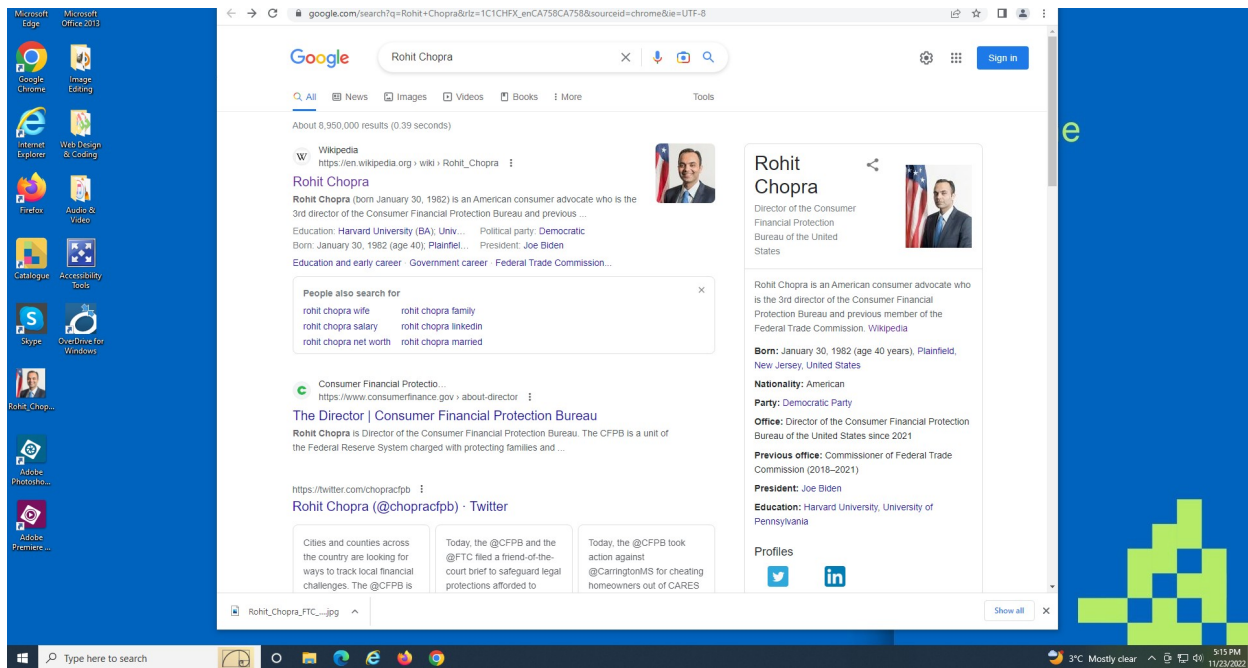
him to form holding company or something-- forge the exact details

In April, Mr. Chopra said he would tap what he called the consumer bureau's "dormant authority" to conduct supervisory audits of nonbank financial-technology firms whose activities the agency has "reasonable cause to determine pose risks to consumers." Conservative critics say this novel exercise of the bureau's powers risks strangling a nascent fintech industry.

[wsjdotcom/articles/rohit-chopra-biden-regulation-cfpb-fdic-ftc-11654713281](https://www.wsj.com/articles/rohit-chopra-biden-regulation-cfpb-fdic-ftc-11654713281)

**government, media, stats: conversationeast indian
government official lists nationality: American**





War, Russia: Rather, the experienced Russian Foreign Minister was received at the Indonesian holiday island with red carpets and an Honour Guard on the runway. Even a traditional dance was performed for him. In this way, even Lavrov's reception made it clear that the Russian delegation was a welcomed party to the G20. It is noted that not even US President Joe Biden was welcomed in the same way as Lavrov.

originaldotantiwardotcom/ahmed-adel/2022/11/22/western-attempts-to-isolate-russia-at-g20-summit-failed/

markets, stats, inflation, government, censorship: credit suisse was at the forefront of the 3x leveraged volatility and commodities ETF's

<https://www.cnbc.com/2022/11/15/credit-suisse-to-sell-securitized-products-business-to-apollo-as-it-accelerates-restructure.html>

these are the securitized products: ETFs...(I think anyways)

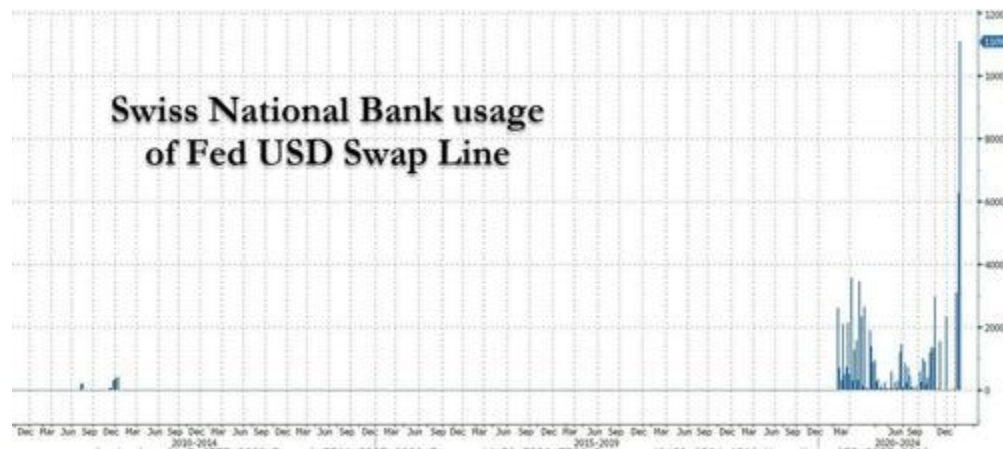
Credit Suisse Craters To Record Low After Revealing Staggering \$88 Billion Bank Run

BY TYLER DURDEN

WEDNESDAY, NOV 23, 2022 - 11:29 AM

One month ago, weeks before the crypto sector was shaken by the crushing FTX bankrun which led to a quick and painful bankruptcy, and revealed that one of the world's biggest crypto exchanges and its "JPMorgan-esque" owner were nothing but hollow shells of fraud, another bank was suffering from a far bigger bank run.

Readers will recall that in mid-October [we reported](#) that the Fed was quietly wiring increasingly greater dollar amounts to the Swiss National Bank - which eventually peaked at around \$11 billion weekly - which in turn was then using these dollar swap lines to plug USD funding holes within one or more Swiss commercial banks.

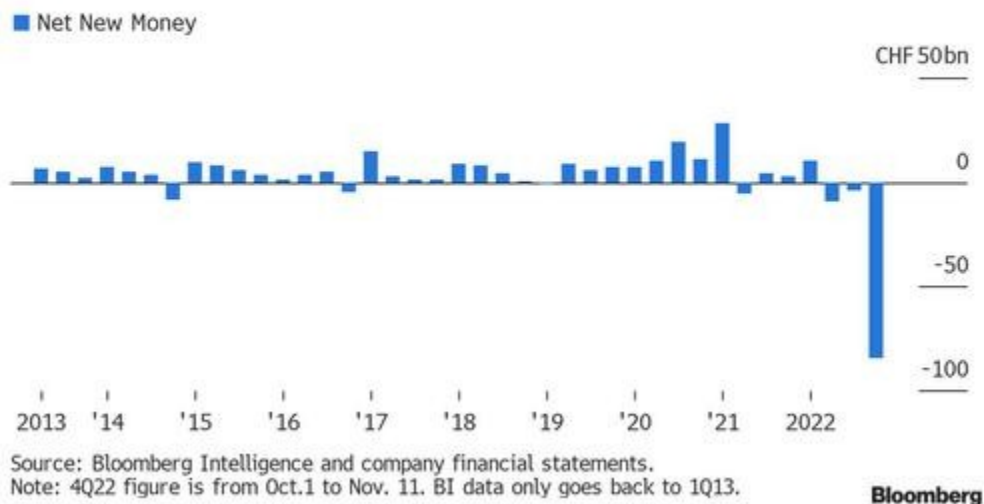


One didn't need to be a rocket surgeon to figure out that the bank in question was Credit Suisse, which had seen its stock tumble amid a relentless barrage of scandals, corporate mistakes and the occasional fraud (that we know of), and which we said was likely suffering from a painful behind-the-scenes bank run.

Fast forward one month, when this morning the 2nd largest Swiss bank confirmed our worst-case speculation, admitting that it had just gone through a staggering bank run in which **clients pulled as much as 84 billion Swiss francs, or \$88.3 billion, of their money from the bank during the first few weeks of the quarter**, underlining ongoing concerns over the bank's restructuring efforts after years of scandals.

Mammoth Outflows

Credit Suisse experiences historic outflows in fourth quarter of 2022



Of course, as FTX learned the hard way, bank runs don't have a happy ending, and the Zurich-based bank warned on Wednesday that **it will face a loss of up to 1.5 billion Swiss francs (\$1.6 billion) for the three final months of the year**, in large part as a result of the decline in wealth and asset management client funds from the start of October to Nov. 11. That, according to Bloomberg, **is the worst exodus since the financial crisis.**

The outflows were especially acute at the key wealth management unit, **where they amounted to 10% of assets under management.** While they have been “reduced substantially from the elevated levels of the first two weeks of October 2022,” **they have yet to reverse**, the bank said.

This means that just as we expected, the massive dollar swap lines were being used by the SNB to provide Credit Suisse with much needed, critical funding; had the funds not arrived, Credit Suisse would likely have liquidated!

The client withdrawals contrast with inflows at rival wealth managers in recent months. AT UBS Group AG, investors added more than \$17 billion to the wealth management unit in the third quarter. Julius Baer Group Ltd. said on Monday that it saw a “clear improvement” in new money flows since the end of June, with wealthy clients adding a net 4.1 billion francs in the four months through October.

“The massive net outflows in Wealth Management, CS’s core business alongside the Swiss Bank, are deeply concerning -- even more so as they have not yet reversed,” said Andreas Venditti, banking analyst at Bank Vontobel AG in Zurich. “Credit Suisse needs to restore trust as fast as possible - but that is easier said than done.”

Analysts at JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Jefferies said the wealth-management outflows were much worse than expected, and warned that bank wasn’t out of

the woods. Ethos Foundation, a proxy advisor, said more steps may be needed to restore investor confidence than the bank has so far outlined.

“Cutting cost is one thing but growing the business is another one,” Vincent Kaufmann, Chief Executive Officer of Ethos, said on Bloomberg TV. “Maybe they can do both, but it remains to be seen.”

Besides the massive bank run which has drained the bank's capital, the Zurich-based bank said it expects losses in both the wealth management division and its investment banking unit due to “subdued activity, market conditions, continued outflows of customer assets and the sale of non-core businesses.”

The bank's grim outlook underscores the urgency for the bank's latest (and soon to be former) Chairman Axel Lehmann to put Credit Suisse on a sustainable footing again through a sweeping overhaul that will see its investment bank carved up and greater focus placed on private banking. **Shareholders on Wednesday approved a capital raise of about 4 billion francs that's needed to finance the restructuring, which will also see about 9,000 jobs cut by 2025.**

“Credit Suisse is on an important journey,” Lehmann said in a speech posted on the lender's website. “We will work to rebuild and refocus this proud 166-year-old Swiss institution with global reach.”

The market was not as optimistic, and Credit Suisse tumbled more than 5%, crashing to a new record low.



In conclusion, the dismal Credit Suisse news provides a handy comparison between the fiat and crypto regimes:

- **FTX was hit with record bank run, and filed for bankruptcy in days, with no central bank to bail it out.**

- **Credit Suisse hit with record bank run, and both the SNB and Fed rushed to bail it out.**

One wonders which system is a better representation of what true capitalism should be like...

Censorship, media, government: nov22 just took the black guy's money without any evidence, then didn't give it back....

After hours of being detained, Johnson returned home the next day - without the money, and without the truck. He was never charged with a crime.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11450893/Arizona-cops-seized-40-000-cash-black-trucking-boss-traveling-buy-new-rig.html>

middle east, history, iran, Erdogan, sanctions, censorship kurdistan region only recognized after saddam was executed

The Baghdad government only recognized the autonomy of the Kurdistan Region after the fall of [Saddam Hussein](#), with a new [Iraqi constitution](#) in 2005

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurdistan_Region

Africa, government, censorship, stats: nov22 this is one of the greatest article I've ever read...one of them...

Emmanuel Macron Comes Clean: "We Need A Single Global Order"

BY TYLER DURDEN

TUESDAY, NOV 22, 2022 - 07:30 AM

[Authored by Paul Joseph Watson via Summit News.](#)

During a speech at the Apec summit in Bangkok, where world leaders gathered, French President Emmanuel Macron called for a "single global order."

Macron made the comments while discussing the power interests of Russia and China and the threat of war.

“We are in a jungle and we have two big elephants trying to become more and more nervous,” he said.

“If they become very nervous and start a war, it will be a big problem for the rest of the jungle. You need the cooperation of a lot of other animals, tigers, monkeys and so on,” added Macron.

“Are you on the U.S. or the Chinese side? Because now, progressively, a lot of people would like to see that there are two orders in this world. This is a huge mistake, even for both the U.S. and China.”

“We need a single global order,” he concluded.

Macron’s words are sure to confuse the ‘fact checker’ industry, which continues to insist that claims about the ‘New World Order’ or one world government are a baseless conspiracy theory.

Indeed, much hilarity ensued last week when it was revealed that Google-owned YouTube had effectively fact-checked a video published by ‘The World Government Summit 2022’.

In the video, the host of a panel discussion asks H.E. Dr. Anwar bin Mohammed Gargash, Diplomatic Advisor to the UAE President, ***“Are you ready for a new world order?”***

Underneath the video is a fact check box about the ‘New World Order’ which links to a Wikipedia article that states, “The New World Order (NWO) is a conspiracy theory which hypothesizes a secretly emerging totalitarian world government.”

The tone of the article debunks the notion that there is a move towards a ‘New World Order’, despite the panelists at the World Government Summit openly discussing that very agenda.

**Government, media, stats, war:
nov21 70 000 african migrants have entered
not just europe, but italy alone, and just this
year...WTF!**

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11448161/Italian-PM-Giorgia-Meloni-slams-France-forcing-Burkina-Faso-hand-50-imports.html>

censorship, vaccine, stats: nov20

the most dystopian things I've ever seen

“We assess conspiracy theories linking the spread of COVID-19 to the expansion of the 5G cellular network are inciting attacks against the communications infrastructure globally and that these threats probably will increase as the disease continues to spread, including calls for violence against telecommunications workers,” the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reported Wednesday in an intelligence report obtained by ABC News.

“Violent extremists have drawn from misinformation campaigns online that claim wireless infrastructure is deleterious to human [health](#) and helps spread COVID-19, resulting in a global effort by like-minded individuals to share operational guidance and justification for conducting attacks against 5G infrastructure, some of which have already prompted arson and physical attacks against cell towers in several US states,” the report concluded.

abcnewsdotgogodotcom/US/feds-warn-attacks-related-bogus-covid-19-conspiracy/story

finished here

CISA has [defended](#) its burgeoning social media monitoring authorities, stating that “once CISA notified a social media platform of disinformation, the social media platform could independently decide whether to remove or modify the post.” But, as documents revealed by the Missouri lawsuit show, CISA’s goal is to make platforms more responsive to their suggestions.

History, middle east, tech, stats: islamic golden age, bagdad, 8th-14th century

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic_Golden_Age#Mathematics

journal, stats: polymath :

individual whose knowledge spans a substantial number of subjects, known to draw on complex bodies of knowledge

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polymath>

history, stats, media, holy roman empire, church: Polish and Latin were the two co-official languages of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth

The Commonwealth was established by the [Union of Lublin](#) in July 1569, but the [Crown of the Kingdom of Poland](#) and the [Grand Duchy of Lithuania](#) had been in a *de facto* [personal union](#) since 1386 with the marriage of the Polish queen [Jadwiga](#) (Hedwig) and Lithuania's Grand Duke [Jogaila](#), who was crowned King *jure uxoris* Władysław II Jagiełło of Poland. The [First Partition](#) in 1772 and the [Second Partition](#) in 1793 greatly reduced the state's size and the Commonwealth was partitioned out of existence due to the [Third Partition](#) in 1795.

The Union possessed many features unique among contemporary states. Its [political system](#) was characterized by strict checks upon monarchical power. These checks were enacted by a legislature (*sejm*) controlled by the nobility (*szlachta*). This idiosyncratic system was a precursor to modern concepts of democracy,^[19] as of 1791 [constitutional monarchy](#),^{[20][21][22]} and federation.^[23] Although the two component states of the Commonwealth were formally equal, Poland was the dominant partner in the union.^[24]

It was one of the largest^{[13][14]} and most populous countries of 16th to 17th-century Europe



[King Frederick William II](#) broke [Prussia's](#) alliance with the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. He joined with [Catherine the Great's Imperial Russia](#) and the [Targowica Confederation](#) of anti-reform Polish magnates to defeat the Commonwealth in the [Polish-Russian War of 1792](#).

The 1791 Constitution was in force for less than 19 months.^{[2][3]} It was declared null and void by the [Grodno Sejm](#) that met in 1793,^{[1][3]} though the Sejm's legal power to do so was questionable.^[3] The [Second](#) and [Third Partitions](#) of Poland (1793, 1795) ultimately ended Poland's sovereign existence until the close of [World War I](#) in 1918. Over those 123 years, the 1791 Constitution helped keep alive Polish aspirations for the eventual restoration of the country's sovereignty. In the words of two of its principal authors, [Ignacy Potocki](#) and [Hugo Kołłątaj](#), the 1791 Constitution was "the last will and testament of the expiring Homeland."^[4]

The Constitution of 3 May 1791 combined a [monarchic republic](#) with a clear division of executive, legislative, and judiciary powers. It is generally considered Europe's first and the world's second modern written national constitution, after the [United States Constitution](#) that had come into force in 1789.^{[3][d]}

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution_of_3_May_1791

middle east, history: nov19 Muhammad Ali of Egypt and the Sudan was an Albanian Ottoman governor and de facto ruler of Egypt from 1805 to 1848, considered the founder of modern Egypt

He was a military commander in an Albanian Ottoman force sent to recover Egypt from a [French occupation](#) under [Napoleon](#). Following Napoleon's withdrawal, Muhammad Ali rose to power through a series of political maneuvers, and in 1805 he was named [Wāli](#) (viceroy) of Egypt and gained the rank of [Pasha](#).

The [dynasty](#) he established would rule Egypt until the [revolution of 1952](#) when [King Farouk](#) was overthrown by the [Free Officers Movement](#) led by [Mohamed Naguib](#) and [Gamal Abdel Nasser](#), establishing the [Republic of Egypt](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad_Ali_Pasha

censorship, government, stats: nov19 more evidence: ALAMEDA RESEARCH taking out PPP loans. FUCK YOUUUUUUUUU!

(ZH) "FTX was founded in 2019 and in July 2021 did a \$900 million funding round that valued the company at \$18 billion. Later that year, it did another capital raise at a valuation of \$25 billion. Investors included Tiger Global and Temasek, per [Reuters](#).

In 2022, the company's valuation went to \$32 billion when SoftBank invested near the top in January, putting \$400 million into the business.

We bet the company wishes it had the \$370k back now...it could probably go a long way towards legal fees."

Small business owner whose about to lose mortgage be like....

Companies and nonprofit organizations that receive PPP loans may have the loans forgiven [if they meet certain criteria](#), including not laying off employees during the defined period covered by the loan. Applicants must attest in their application that the loans are [necessary for their continuing operation](#). Note: This data reflects loan applications approved by banks and submitted to the SBA. It may not account for money not distributed to, or credit not used by, a given company.

If you are a representative of this company and believe this record is in error, use [this form](#) to let the SBA know.

projectsdotpropublicadotorg/coronavirus/bailouts/loans/alameda-research-llc-3971737204

energy, government, markets, stats: read later: there was an energy crisis in 2005?

The problem in 2005, as now, was inflation in energy costs that was feeding through to inflation in general. Inflation in food prices was especially a problem. The Federal Reserve chose to fix the problem by raising the Federal Funds interest rate [from 1.00% to 5.25% between June 30, 2004 and June 30, 2006](#).

Stats, government: nov19 american demographics

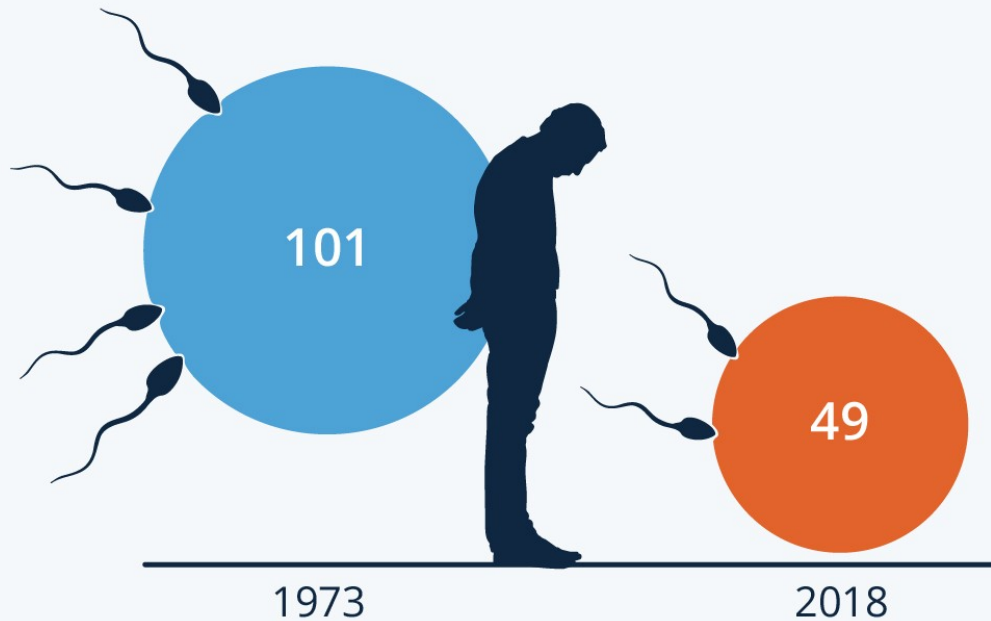
<https://www.zerohedge.com/economics/visualizing-americas-changing-demographics-over-past-100-years>

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/visualizing-u-s-population-by-race/>

Top Israeli Physician Calls World Decline in Male Sperm Count a "Crisis"

Fragile Fertility

Average sperm count of men worldwide in 1973 and 2018
(million sperm per milliliter of semen)



Source: Levine et al. Temporal trends in sperm count: a systematic review and meta-regression analysis. Human Reproduction Update (2022)



statista

Hagai Levine, former Chair of Israel's association of Public Health Physicians, which I take it is the official union for doctors in the country. This guy was the chairman..

"Members include senior figures in the health sector, namely people who have greatly influenced the structure of the healthcare system, existing services, and the health system management".

<https://publichealth.doctoronly.co.il/about-the-israeli-association-of-public-health-physicians/>

Commenting on the decline, lead author of the study, Hagai Levine, said "I think **this is another signal that something is wrong with the globe** and that we need to do something about it" adding:

"I think it's a crisis, that we better tackle now, before it may reach a tipping point which may not be reversible".

<https://www.statista.com/chart/10439/sperm-counts-of-western-men-halved-in-38-years/>

war, sanctions, Russia, markets, energy, iran, Erdogan: nov19 world oil deamnd is now ABOVE 2019 level by 1 million barrels...wow.

In September, global oil demand was at 101 percent of pre-Covid levels, while crude production was at 99 percent of those levels, the data showed.

The rise in September demand was driven by diesel consumption in China and gasoline demand in the United States, said the IEF, the world's largest international organization of energy ministers.

Yet, global inventories remain 442 million barrels below the five-year average, the IEF said.

ilpricedotcom/Latest-Energy-News/World-News/World-Oil-Demand-Topped-Pre-Covid-Levels-In-September.html

censorship, government, tech: nov19 lawyer calls secret government installed andriod app "dystopian"

"The Massachusetts DPH, like any other government actor, is bound by state and federal constitutional and legal constraints on its conduct. This 'android attack,' deliberately designed to override the constitutional and legal rights of citizens to be free from government intrusions upon their privacy without their consent, reads like dystopian science fiction—and must be swiftly invalidated by the court."

Persuading the public to voluntarily adopt such apps may be difficult, but it is also necessary in a free society. The government may not secretly install surveillance devices on your personal property without a warrant—even for a laudable purpose. For the same reason, it may not install surveillance software on your smartphone without your awareness and permission."

— **Sheng Li, Litigation Counsel, NCLA**

nclalegaldotorg/2022/11/ncla-files-class-action-against-massachusetts-for-auto-installing-covid-spyware-on-1-million-phones

stats, journal, middle east: nov17

beautiful picture

<https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/313633561544975003/>

censorship, government, media, stats, vaccine: nov17
Just what I've been looking for!: realife example of employees within the national security apartus being bribed to hack into the publics personal accounts.

I've been waiting for this

"Oops": Fired Facebook Employees Took Bribes To Hijack User Accounts

BY TYLER DURDEN

THURSDAY, NOV 17, 2022 - 02:10 PM

Facebook parent Meta has fired or disciplined **over two dozen employees and contractors** over the last year who have been accused of **improperly hijacking user accounts** - in some cases for bribes, according to the [Wall Street Journal](#), citing people familiar with the matter and documents seen by the outlet.

The suspects accepted **thousands of dollars in bribes** from outside hackers in some cases.

Some of those fired were contractors who worked as security guards stationed at Meta facilities and were given access to the Facebook parent's internal

mechanism for employees to help users having trouble with their accounts, according to the documents and people familiar with the matter. -WSJ

The mechanism, known internally as "Oops," was created during the company's early years in order to help users who either forgot their passwords or emails, or had their accounts taken over by hackers.

"Individuals selling fraudulent services are always targeting online platforms, including ours, and adapting their tactics in response to the detection methods that are commonly used across the industry," according to Meta spokesman Andy Stone, who added that the company would continue to take "appropriate action against those involved in these kinds of schemes."

Meta contractor Allied Universal said in a statement that it "takes seriously all reports of violations of our standards of conduct."

When users are locked out of their accounts, there are automated procedures to try and recover it - including trying to reach Meta by phone or email, which is typically an exercise in futility.

"**Oops,**" which stands for Online Operations, is supposed to be limited to special circumstances, such as friends, family, business partners and public figures as a way to cut in line for assistance. In 2020, it serviced over 50,000 tasks - up from 22,000 just three years earlier. In order to file an Oops report, the employee or contractor lists an email address to be reset. They must answer a series of questions, including whether the request is being made for someone on CEO Mark Zuckerberg's team, a celebrity, Meta partner, or family member, the *Journal* reports.

Because so many people depend on social media for their businesses, or to manage critically important aspects of their lives, gaining illicit control of an account can be lucrative. Stolen Facebook and Instagram handles [can be sold for tens of thousands of dollars](#) on other online forums.

But in part because the Oops system is off limits to the vast majority of Facebook users, a cottage industry of intermediaries has developed who charge users money to regain control of their accounts. In interviews with the Journal, some of those third parties claim to have access to Meta employees to help reset accounts. -WSJ

"When you take someone's Instagram account down that they've spent years building up, you're taking away their whole means of generating an income," said Nick McCandless, whose company McCandless Group operates a platform for content creators and **charges people to reset their accounts through an inside contact at Meta.**

"You really have to have someone on the inside who will actually do it."

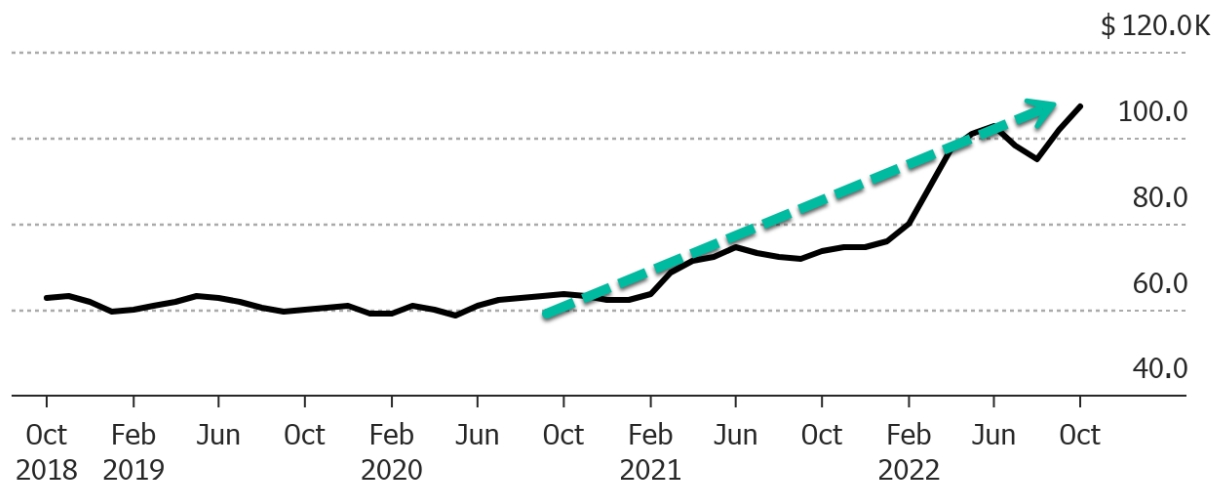
Stats, media, censorship: nov17 "Organized Crime" Looters Steal Astounding \$400 Million In Goods From Target Stores

<https://www.zerohedge.com/markets/target-suffers-400-million-losses-organized-crime-gangs-loot-stores>

housing, inflation, government: nov17 Rates and inflation have priced out people making UNDER \$100 000

Shut Out

Annual income needed to afford median-priced US home skyrockets



Source: Redfin

Bloomberg

A new report via real estate brokerage firm Redfin Corp. found that in October, the average buyer needed to earn \$107,281 to afford the monthly mortgage payment of a median-priced home, up a whopping 46% from a year ago of \$73,668.

Housing Affordability Worsens As Homeownership Out Of Reach For Anyone Making Under \$100k

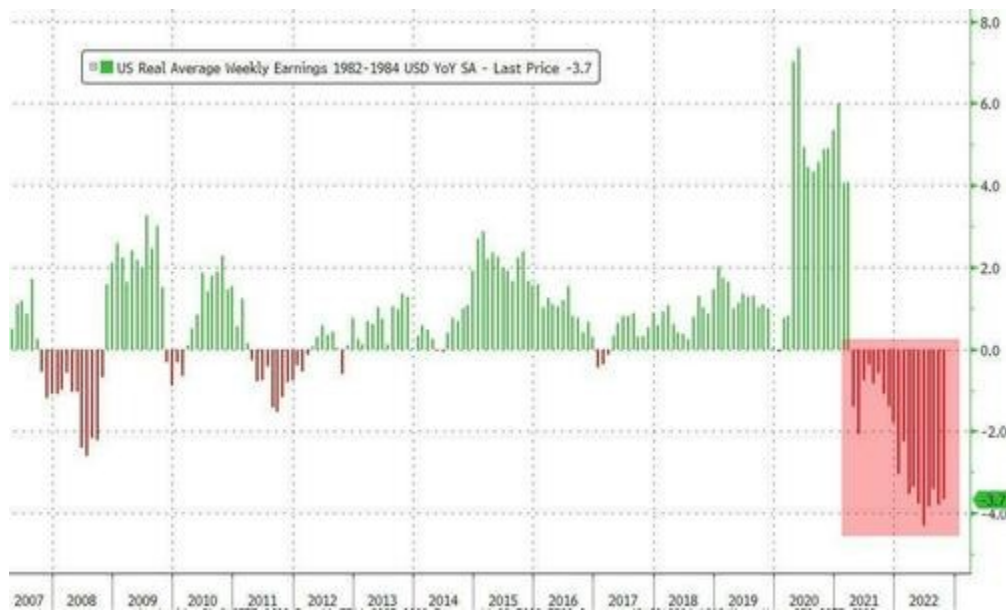
BY TYLER DURDEN

WEDNESDAY, NOV 16, 2022 - 07:00 PM

The US housing affordability crisis continues to worsen as mortgage rates skyrocket to two-decade highs while the cost of an average home is still at bubbly levels. Financing costs are through the roof, and anyone earning less than \$100,000 has been priced out of homeownership.

A new report via real estate brokerage firm Redfin Corp. found that in October, the average buyer needed to earn \$107,281 to afford the monthly mortgage payment of a median-priced home, up a whopping 46% from a year ago of \$73,668.

Considering there have been a record 19 consecutive months of negative real wage growth, most of which have been under President Biden's tenure, many prospective homebuyers have likely given up and are now renting (or back in their parent's basement).



Considering there have been a record 19 consecutive months of negative real wage growth, most of which have been under President Biden's tenure, many prospective homebuyers have likely given up and are now renting (or back in their parent's basement).

"Affordability challenges are a major reason why home sales have slowed so dramatically over the last few months," Redfin said in the report.



What's made the affordability crisis worse is the Federal Reserve's most aggressive interest rate hiking in decades to quell inflation has sent the 30-year fixed mortgage above 7% within the last several quarters.



This has caused a 'payment shock' as elevated rates, high home prices, and faltering wage growth have priced out millions of Americans.

According to the National Association of Realtors, today's souring homebuying environment has been described as the 'worst in decades'.



None of this should surprise readers since we first stated in March that soaring interest rates would significantly challenge [housing affordability](#).

Today, we see the "[Death Of The American Dream And Home Ownership](#)." And what's the result: you'll rent and own nothing... Well, that's a very similar statement from the World Economic Forum: by 2030, "you'll own nothing, and you'll (still) be happy.

More importantly, all of this suggests home prices could be on the [cusp of a major downturn](#).



We suspect 2023 will be a tumultuous year for the [housing market until the Fed pivots](#).

... And we almost forgot that a Bloomberg OP-ED earlier this year said anyone earning less than \$300k should eat lentils.



Bloomberg Opinion ✓
@bopinion

...

Inflation stings most if you earn less than \$300K. Here's how to deal:

- ➡ Take the bus
- ➡ Don't buy in bulk
- ➡ Try lentils instead of meat
- ➡ Nobody said this would be fun

Stats, war, sanctions: nov17 new tool shows map of bases us

<https://worldbeyondwar.org/no-bases/>

stats, government, markets: International central banking was officially started in 1099. By **** in the Lombardi region of Italy

Funny how you IRS form is coded 1099. I wonder how that came about?

The **** financed and insured grain, its harvest, marketing and delivery and crop losses, but based these on "futures" pricing. What was the value of the grain not at harvest, but when it reached a distant market? That's how they made a good profit, and they charged usury of course, which Christian and Muslims were forbidden to do.

They now just do that in every market worldwide. Coincidence?

No. Ye was right all along. There is a reason for them being kicked out of 115 city states, countries and protectorates since the exodus. If only those poor persecuted people (that you can't criticize) could explain why that is...

censorship, vaccine: nov17 picture



Gena Suarez · [Follow](#)

6h · 🌐



A New York 8th grader drew this. Perspective. HER perspective. 🤔



Russia, war, sanctions: nov15 Interest on the national debt was \$399 billion in FY22, up from under \$300 billion in FY16, and is now on track to exceed \$700 billion in FY24.

theburningplatformdotcom/2022/11/14/fourth-turning-winter-of-death

energy, sanctions, war: pipeline stats

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/europes-alternatives-if-russia-shuts-off-gas-supply-2022-10-20/>

stats, war, markets, government, history: nov15 they declared force majeure..get it? "yeah, something happened, (cough)"funny...

A force majeure clause is a **contractual provision stating that certain contractual obligations are suspended on certain triggering events.**

(Typically, in a lease, a force majeure clause will go on to state that in any event, the obligation to pay rent and other sums will not be suspended.)Jul 27, 2022

Censorship: nice free speech article with tons of links: reade later. They shut down ann coulter

<https://jonathanturley.org/2022/11/12/your-words-are-violence-coulter-cancelled-at-cornell/>

energy, stats: nov12 great energy infographic

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/sp/why-fusion-will-power-the-race-to-net-zero/>

stats, media: nov12 incredible infographic shows prices of illegal passports (The Dark Web Price Index 2022)

https://cms.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/2022-11-11_12-34-31.jpg?itok=7zng35Eu

ai, tech: nov8 Scientists used machine learning to develop a transparent window coating

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-11381285/Scientists-develop-transparent-window-coating-cool-buildings-without-using-energy.html>

incredible new boston dynamics video (i wanna do a blog with all the latest tech, new age, industrevol2.0 gifs, memes, vids all livestreamed on one scrolling page)

investmentwatchblogdotcom/new-killer-bots-just-dropped/

stats, tech: the internet was created by a brit

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tim_Berners-Lee

stats, tech: data centers for internet

<https://wordpress.com/forums/topic/wordpress-data-center-locations/>

<https://history-computer.com/the-10-largest-web-hosting-companies-in-the-world-and-what-they-do/>

"While people often think of the Internet as an immaterial object, the data that makes up the Internet is actually stored at a very physical location: data servers. Businesses sometimes operate their own servers or rent out servers from data centers, enabling them to store online files -- like those that make up a website -- and make them globally accessible. Essentially, an Internet data center server is the saving location for files accessible from the Internet."

<https://smallbusiness.chron.com/internet-data-center-server-work-60422.html>

<https://www.wired.com/2014/05/stunning-photos-of-the-internets-hidden-infrastructure/>

energy, sanctions, war, Russia: Zoltan Poltzer: Where \$2 Trillion Of German Value Depends On \$20 Billion Of Russian Gas

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Svz-W5w2bPM>

war, stats, history: aug26 scorched earth

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scorched_earth

aug23 price of water does not reflect its real value

<https://www.ft.com/content/62ae2f7f-5101-4bae-9a89-884aa6a00d13>

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https://getpocket.com/explore/item/quantum-leaps-long-assumed-to-be-instantaneous-take-time?utm_source=pocket-newtab

censorship: read later: wired article about spyware and nso group

https://www.wired.com/story/europe-spyware-scandals-greece/?utm_source=pocket-newtab

censorship: aug15 Phone Apps 'legal malware': cybersecurity expert

"They Can Do Audio, Video, & Physical Surveillance On You 24H/365D A Year": Rex Lee On Intrusive Apps

by Tyler Durden
Sunday, Aug 14, 2022 - 08:25 PM

[In this special episode, The Epoch Times' Tiffany Meier sat down with Rex M. Lee](#), cybersecurity adviser at [My Smart Privacy](#). He helps shed light on [China](#)'s cyberattacks on America, how they affect us in our daily lives, and what can be done to stop them.

Lee notes one way adversarial countries can get in is through invasive apps:

“You have to look at an app as legal malware. And that’s the best way you can describe apps today. An app—whether it’s a social media app developed by Bytedance, such as TikTok, or Facebook, or Instagram—any of these apps, they are basically legal malware that enable the developer to monitor, track, and data mine the end user for financial gain 24 by seven, 365 days a year.

“A single intrusive app enables the developer to collect over 5,000 highly confidential data points associated with the end user’s personal information, business information, medical information, legal information, and employment information because **the surveillance and data mining done by these companies is indiscriminate**, meaning that they’re not only collecting consumer information, they’re collecting every bit of information from the end user, including text messages, email, email attachments, calendar events, and so forth,” he added.

As to just how invasive these are, Lee said:

“What an app will do is it will interlink with all of the hardware on the device and the sensors on the device, such as camera and microphone, as well as sensors, such as the accelerometer. So they can do audio, video and physical surveillance on you 24 hours, 365 days a year while collecting those 5,000 highly confidential data points on the end user. What they’re doing is they package that and they monetize it. But also, as we’re seeing in the news, is that these tech companies are aligned with governments. So the information a lot of times is ending up in the hands of the government.”

Meier also sat down with Greg Copley, president of the International Strategic Studies Association and author of [“The New Total War.”](#) He touches on the recent buzz over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s trip to Taiwan and what that means for this November, both in terms of our midterm elections and Chinese leader Xi Jinping seeking an unprecedented third term.

Copley said:

“We’re now getting a better idea as to how the People’s Liberation Army [PLA] would fight a war against Taiwan, if it came to that. And if they in fact allowed the General Secretary Xi to make them go to war on the Taiwan issue, Japan has made it clear, and it repeated that declaration during Speaker Pelosi’s visit, that Japan would support Taiwan in the event of a military attack by the People’s Republic of China. Certainly, the U.S. will be drawn into it one way or another. Yes, it would involve high risks and the potential for many casualties. But it would also involve higher risks for the People’s Republic of China, not just in the direct conflict between the PLA and the Republic of China armed forces and the United States armed forces and the Japanese self-defense forces, but also there are other forces who would become engaged automatically.

“That probably would include Australia, but it would certainly include India, and the Indian factor is one which Beijing does not wish to discuss openly. Even in the current war game posture against Taiwan, the PLA started moving additional forces down into the Tibetan plateau to be ready for an Indian response there. The Indian response would be massive. India has a similar force capability in many respects to the People’s Republic of China, and could move the entirety of its forces against the PRC, both on the Tibetan plateau and in the Eurasian context, but also in the Indian Ocean in a naval context,” he added.

Watch the full interview below:

<https://www.zerohedge.com/markets/they-can-do-audio-video-physical-surveillance-you-24h365d-year-rex-lee-intrusive-apps>

**stats, markets, government, war, sanctions,
china: aug8 Taiwan Semiconductor
Manufacturing Company: 53% of the foundry
market**

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